# SOARING AS EAGLES
## Youth Ministry

Winter 2006/07      *Isaiah 40:31*      Vol. V • Issue IV



## An Inspirational Newsletter for Teens!

- For Bible believing Baptist teens!

- Preachers' Kids

- Missionaries' Kids

- Evangelists' Kids

- Full-time Christian Workers' Kids

### For Young People who want to make a difference

A ministry of:

**Bible Baptist Church**
of Charlevoix

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# A Fresh Start

*"Jacob was left alone…"* (Gen.32:24) Jacob had been gone from home for twenty years at the time he was alone by the brook Jabbok where he wrestled with the Angel of God before meeting his brother Esau again. Living up to his name, Jacob had been a "trickster" and a "surplanter." Jacob was finally on his way home for a fresh start.

You may find yourself as Jacob living a selfish life, wanting your own way and living for yourself and not for the Lord. You may need to steal away somewhere alone and talk to God. The angel asked him, "What is your name?" Jacob had to be honest and admit who he was—Jacob, a trickster and a surplanter.

For you to get a fresh start and feel the cleansing power of God, you need to admit to God who you are—a sinner. God changed Jacob's name to Israel, a prince with the power of God upon him. What do you need to confess to come clean with God and get a fresh start for the new year? Jacob prevailed with God that day and would not let go until God blessed him. God touched him both physically and spiritually. Jacob was never the s
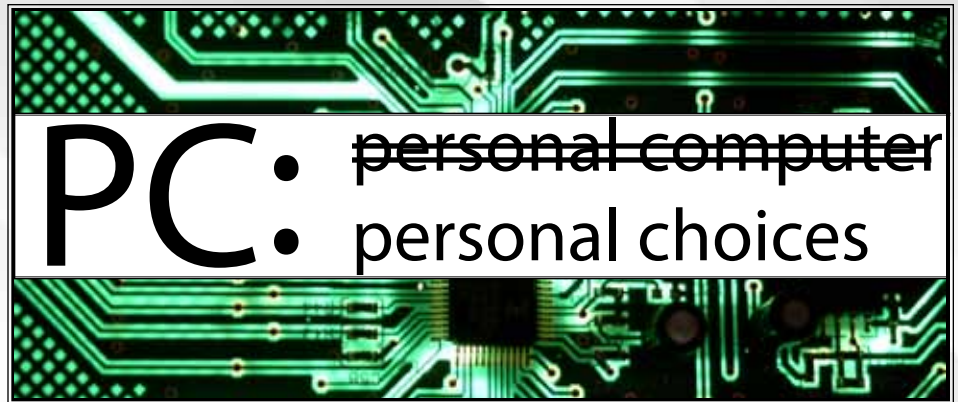
For His Glory,
Jim Green, Editor

# PC: ~~personal computer~~ personal choices

**Editor's Note:** Philip Green is the assistant pastor of Bible Baptist Church in Charlevoix, MI. After graduating from Bible college, Philip returned home to serve beside his dad, Pastor Jim Green, editor of this newsletter.

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My name is Philip Carl Green. My middle name was given to me in honor of my great, great uncle Carl Lackey of White Plains, NC, a great preacher who preached from the 1940's to the 1990's. My initials then are PC Green. Of course, the PC or personal computer is not mentioned in the Bible because it was not invented yet, but God gave me this sermon from Joshua 24:15.

*"Choose you this day whom ye will serve: whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."*

## PC—Personal Choices.

The first computer was designed by a man named Konrad Zuess in 1936. It was almost as large as a basketball court. In 1942, Clifford Berry modified it and called it the ABC computer. But it was far from simple. You would have needed a Ph.D. to program it or operate it.

Three designs later came the Manchester Baby computer although this baby weighed over a ton and consisted of over 20,000 glass tubes. In 1951 the commercial computer came out and was used in the election process of our 34th president, President Eisenhower. In 1958 the integrated circuit was invented, and in 1962 the first computer game came out.

The mouse was also invented in 1962. In 1970, RAM was invented, and in 1971, the micro processor, the floppy disk, and the internet. Apple came out with their first computer in 1976. From 1981 to the present, there have been modifications and inventions too numerous to mention.

My intention in this message is to take the correlation between basic computer components and the Christian life.

A computer runs off of a motherboard. The computer will not work without a motherboard, and it has a very specific job to the proper running of computers. It is the main circuit board or the most important piece that gives functions to a computer. The processor and the RAM are connected to the motherboard. In common language, the motherboard is like the director of a train station. It sees a train coming along and recognizes that information is coming in and tells it to go to a certain bay. Another bit of information comes along like cache, and it is in a collision course for another bit of information like RAM, and it is going to ram the RAM. That can't happen, so the motherboard directs the cache and the RAM, or you would have a crash, or processor breakdown.

The application in our lives is priorities. What really breaks down our lives is priorities, choosing the proper order of things to do—where to go, when to do, what to do. I know this well because it happens to me all the time. Like, I need another five minutes to sleep in. I rationalize the situation, move things around in my mind…no, it is mind over mattress. I should get up and get going.

Breakfast or Bible…here's another one that hits me. Really, you could read your Bible while you eat breakfast. Work or play. Just get your work done, and then you can play. Spiritual or carnal. You may say that's an easy one. It is in theory but not in practice. When you put it on that plane and you can do something spiritual or something carnal, how many times do you choose spiritual?

We each have priorities, and we make time for what is important to us. We choose our preferences. Everyone has different priorities, but I am here to say, our first priority should be God, secondly to our family and friends, and thirdly to work, and lastly to play. Schedule some time to play, to relax, to enjoy some fun time and some alone time.
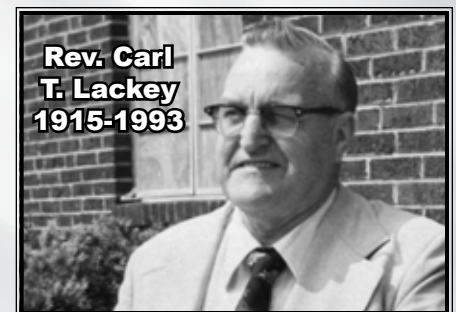
My title is Personal Choices. We have a motherboard, and we choose to run our lives by our priorities. To stay healthy, we need to balance our priorities.

Let's look at another piece of hardware—the hard drive. A hard disc in computer science is one or more inflexible platters that are covered with coated material that allow the magnetic recording of computer data. These discs spin inside the computer. Hard discs provide faster access than floppy discs. They are capable of storing much more information. They are rigid and can stack as many as eight on top of each other. On these platters are stored memory or files of information you want to save. This is simple to create an application to the human life. We have a brain or memory bank.

We should do two things with this memory bank. We should process good information, and then we

**mind over mattress:**
I'VE **GOT** TO GET UP!

Rev. Carl
T. Lackey
1915-1993

# Untangling the Web

### as a born-again child of God should you get involved with the internet

"Oh, what a tangled web we weave..." so the immortal literature reads. What if the seventeenth-century writer could have only momentarily entered our era? How amazed would he have been at the vast web that has been spun!

**The internet.** Speed of sound? Forget it! Speed of information? That's more like it! What a great tool! Oh, but what a devious trap! So many of us depend on this great technology. Many businesses and individuals depend on this great web of information. The design of this very newsletter would be greatly inhibited without the aid of email and the net. We have been faced with the question by so many: "Should a Christian have access to this great snare?" Well, we asked the question to men of God, and we feel that it will be helpful to you as you decide whether or not a child of God should get involved with the internet.

**Rudy Stembridge.** Twenty seven years ago when we started serving with Word for the World, there was no such thing as internet and e-mail. We mailed letters with envelopes and stamps and made long distance phone calls. Communicating with missionaries on the foreign field was very difficult not only from a time standpoint, but also in the cost factor. Missionaries on the other side of the world would have to call when a telephone was available, and sometimes the only telephone in a village was available from 2 - 4 PM (their time) which could be 2 - 4 AM (our time), not to mention that a phone call from a foreign country could cost as much as $60.00 for a few minutes. If a missionary mailed a letter it would take two-three weeks for it to arrive and then two or three weeks for them to receive our reply. By the time we had been in contact with a missionary half way around the world, it had taken 6 weeks!

In 1995 we set up our first e-mail account which did not have internet access. This was such a blessing to our missionaries because now we could be in contact in a matter of hours, rather than weeks! The cost was free, and we could have a written copy of the correspondence. It was and is a very useful tool in communicating with our missionaries. Requests can now be handled in less than 24 hours in most cases whereas it used to take several days or even weeks. A few years later, internet access was made available with e-mail accounts, but we chose not to have it. The danger was that if you received an e-mail with a link attached to it, the link would take you to a website which may or may not be a place you wanted to be. In 2000, we added a website and internet access to allow us to update and maintain our website. It became a very useful tool for getting information to pastors, churches, and individuals about our ministry and our missionaries.

Rudy Stembridge is the Administrative Director of Word for the World Baptist Ministries, Inc. His wife, Cyndi, is the daughter of Dr. Homer Smith, evangelist and founder of Word for the World. Word for the World Baptist Missions, Inc. is a fundamental, Baptist missionary clearinghouse that assists local church missionaries. Word for the World can be reached at 706-866-8826.

Having internet access, you must be careful of emails and pop-up ads that have links to websites attached. These can take you to places you may not want to go. Our experience with the internet has been a useful one. We have used it to help gather information about countries, populations, language classes, school materials, health concerns in various countries, visas, shipping, passports, and the list goes on. It is a valuable tool for gaining needed information and keeping in touch with our missionaries and supporters.

Unfortunately, the devil is using the internet to destroy the lives of many teens and adults, marriages, homes, and ministries. My advice to teens and parents of teens is to not let yourself or them be taken to websites that are not beneficial. Don't think that you will be the exception. You must guard yourself from being duped into clicking on a link to a website that will lead you to destruction. There are programs available that have filters you can set up to stop these emails and pop-ups before they get to your computer. Check with your internet service provider and see how to set up these filters so you can block any unwanted emails and pop-ups. Be as careful with the internet as you would be with your testimony. Don't let it destroy yours as it has others.

**Missionary Tom Geer.** What an amazing time we live in! I grew up having only three digits in our phone number. Black and white television was the rave. You could get your profile done at the fair for a dollar. They used something called a computer that spit out punch cards by the thousands. I still see creations that were generated (doorstops, bookends and other assorted ugly, gold spray painted works of art) from those cards. Today we are very quick to complain when our call gets dropped, or the map we followed using Map-quest or the on board GPS was off by two buildings, or when our computer gets a virus or crashes (PC owners anyway).



Missionary Tom Geer & Family

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should watch out for corrupt files trying to get in. The computer is a capable device for storing video and audio like precious family photos, quotes, school projects, music, and timeless treasures. But just as easily as it is to save good things, we can save the bad movies, the pornographic photos, the bad music, or the hate mail. We have a memory bank just like a computer.

Let's skip on now to the screen. It is the work area that uses icons and menus to simulate the top of a desk—the desktop. It is characterized by two operating systems. I will skip over to software for a second and mention that there are basically two systems: Apple Macintosh or Windows operating systems. They are very different. It's like a fight between two different worlds of computers.

Just like a computer, you have to be running on an operating system. What are you operating on? Each system has very different windows and a different language. They may have some similarities, but they can never be the other. Until recently, a Mac could never be a PC, and a PC could never be a Mac. A Mac may look like it has a Windows operating system, but it can never be changed. It's still a Mac. It's like a Christian running off of the world. It's your choice. You have a motherboard, a hard drive, a screen, but the operating system is your choice. You can control what goes on your screen. You can control pop-ups. You can get software and filters; you can throw the internet out if you have to. Sometimes the devil pops up things in our lives, but we can throw them out. We can get the anti-virus protection to stop them. It is your personal choice.

Next is the keyboard. All the controlling of the computer comes from the keyboard. The personal choice of hitting the go button is in your power. You can choose good or bad. Software for a computer are the systems that run the hard drive. How does the computer know that when you press the "c" key, it means to put a "c" on your computer screen? It is the software program that translates the command into something the computer can understand and repeat. One of the main essentials is the operating system. Secondly are the drivers. The term, by its name alone, drives the hard drive. Drivers for us could be just as simple: what drives you. We should be programmed by God and not this world. The Bible is our manual, or the main program. It tells us when we have errors. This driver, the Word of God, tells us when we need to update our files. You know, everyday a computer needs updates. Everyday we need to get into the Word of God and get ourselves updated. Left alone without updates, a system will bog down and eventually end up

in a system crash. Between work and job and home and rest, we get bogged down by not getting our system updates, and we feel like a failure or we actually fall. The time spent getting uploads will keep your computer healthy and keep it from crashing. Downloading updates is tedious and time-consuming, but it is so vitally necessary. Time spent in God's Word will keep you from becoming a casualty or from crashing in your Christian life.

Another problem is a virus. Viewing corrupt files make it much more likely that you will get a virus. People that do the surfing, or the searching, and remain unprotected are likely to get "sick" with a virus. A virus will begin small but grow until the whole computer is "sick." Some viruses will attack violently and suddenly. Others will gradually consume the internal workings of your computer.

Fortunately, sometimes there are cures for viruses. Both computers and humans have a memory that is uneraseable. Once you hit the delete button and it is in the recycle bin, it is gone. Or, is it? We have been able to go back and restore things that have been

deleted from a hard drive because it is not really gone. That is also a sad thing, because what we have seen, we cannot forget. It is a never ending process of trying to get victory over something; however, there is one thing you can do. It is called the overwrite feature. When you erase the bad music, you must fill the slot with good music. The government does this with any document that is deleted; they overwrite it five times with a series of zeros and ones. That way, for national security reasons, no one can ever go back to get that information. I think we should do that for heavenly security reasons. The things we have messed up and done, we can overwrite and have our memory redone.

Essential software is antivirus with spam blocking capabilities. I wish I had time to go into this as a full message in itself. Don't you hate it when you get your e-mail along with a hundred junk mails? It is not only distracting but frustrating. Sometimes the devil gets the victory in our lives by distracting and frustrating us.

To tell you the truth, I don't understand why anyone would create a virus and then send it to people they don't even know. The virus is just like the devil trying to get into our thoughts or into our lives to

mess up our systems or to cause us to fail. Everyone has a tendency toward a "virus," and you probably know your tendencies. They are little in inception, you can download them with something good—maybe 90% good and 10% virus—and you can have them and not know you have them. There are also things called trojans—once you have them, they take over. With some DLL trojans, your computer will shut off and turn on, shut off and turn on until the hardware burns out. As soon as you get this trojan, you can go out and buy another PC because that computer is trash. There are other trojans that work with applications. When you tell your computer to do something, the trojan tells it to shut down. Eventually your computer will not turn on anymore. A generic trojan that you don't even realize you have will command your life until it grows so big that it overpowers you. It is a serious thing, but a stupid thing, because it could have been prevented. The correlation is just like sin trying to get into our lives and corrupt things.

How is your virus protection? Big time companies spend thousands of dollars for safety software because they have files that are so precious that they cannot afford to lose. Yet in our lives, we have this little teeny tiny firewall or blocker between us and the world. Any kind of virus could just poke through. I would want a double plated titanium two-foot thick firewall with two guys with SKS's on the other side saying, "You just try to get through." It is the boundary between people or things on the outside that want to get into your life. It will start with just a few things that are interesting, maybe something that will help you out. You let down your firewall and let a little of the world in until they rush in and completely take over. In the Christian life, we should not get that close. The world is out there waiting to control our lives with its lust and sensuality, and we should set up a huge firewall to protect ourselves, and that is a personal choice.

Sin is sin, and it will come in anyway it can. Only anti-virus software can protect you from it. How is your anti-virus protection?

Are we equipped with the right operating system? (Are you controlled with the worldly system or the godly system?) Do you take time for updates? (Do you get those updates daily?) What about your driver? (What is driving you?) Is your firewall up-to-date to protect you from the onslaught of Satan? Are you storing the right things in your memory block? What are you allowing on your screen? Are you pushing the right buttons on the keypad?

I say to you: it is your personal choice as to what you do with your computer and with your life.

One more thing, it is a horrible thing to see a computer crash. All the time and money invested into the equipment and the vast amount of data stored is gone. It is a horrible feeling to have a computer crash. It almost feels like losing a loved one. You need those files, you need that computer, and it isn't there. You can't go to it. When your teenager goes down, when you get caught clicking those buttons—it is a serious thing. When we are hijacked by viruses and taken down and can't do anything about it, it is a horrible feeling, but it is too late.
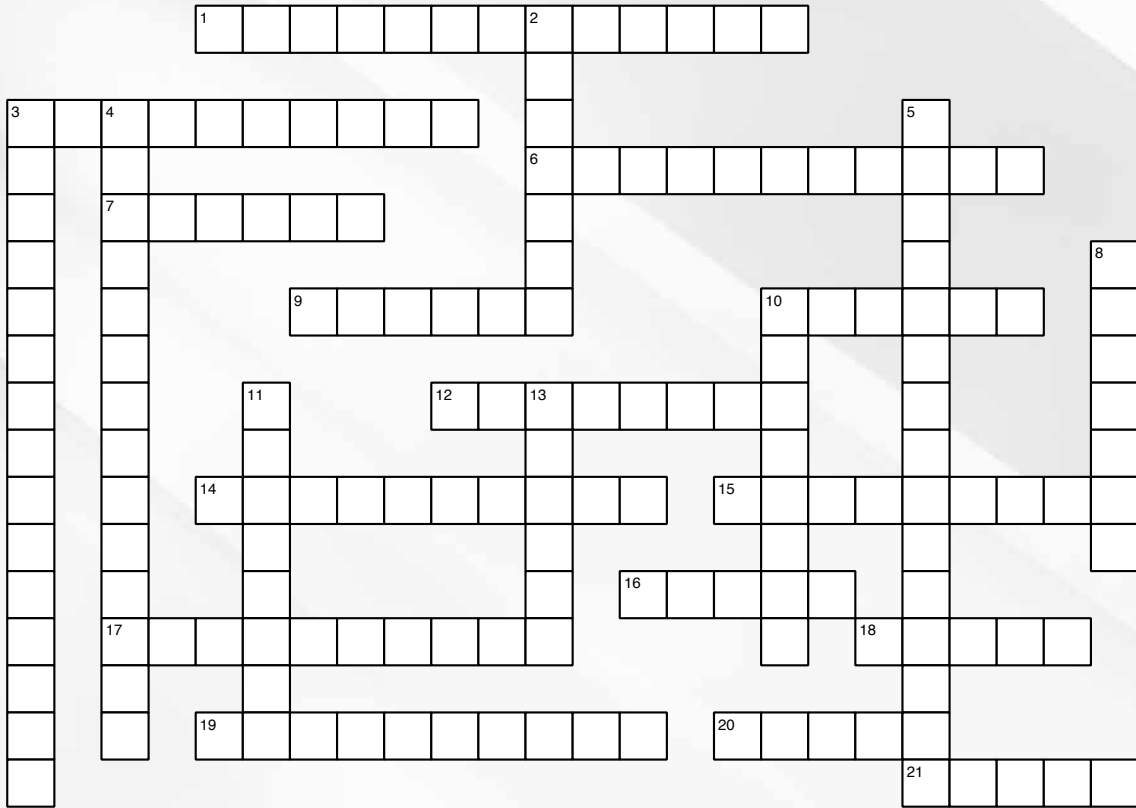
We can call out to the ultimate Programmer, "Save me!" Sometimes the files in a computer can be restored, but most of the time, after a crash, it is too late. You can say, "Lord, I don't want to not work for You, anymore; I don't want to cease to function," but that is a personal choice that you made a little bit too late. *"Choose you this day whom ye will serve…"* It all boils down to one thing— personal choices."

*End*

# Official Soaring as Eagles CrossWord Puzzle

In the articles of this issue you will find all the answers to this puzzle. Upon completion, cut out or photocopy this page and send it to us. The first five to send in the finished puzzle will get their names and pictures published in the SAE Puzzle Hall of Fame next issue!

## Down

2. Why run with the _____?
3. It all boils down to _____ _____.
4. Do not allow free access without _____.
5. PC in the message means _____ _____.
8. The purpose of this SAE is to enable you to make wiser _____.
10. Mind over _____.
11. "I _____ this memory."
13. A Virus or a _____ will crash your computer.

## Across

1. The best internet filter we can recommend.
3. "I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes."
6. The first computer was designed by _____ _____.
7. More is _____ than taught.
9. When you can soar with the _____!
10. The overwrite feature can redo our _____.
12. The _____ could be a devious trap.
14. We live in the age of _____.
15. A Biblical _____ guides when something is not clearly forbidden.
16. Get a _____ start for the New Year.
17. Eating oatmeal is like eating _____ on a cold morning.
18. The _____ is our manual.
19. Should be turned off during church services.
20. In 1962, a _____ was no longer just a rodent.
21. Joshua 24:15, "...we will _____ the Lord."

# WHAT DO YOU THINK

*My sister has been receiving and sending text messages on her cell phone during church services. Isn't this like passing notes in church?*

Text messages are a new form of an old problem of young people talking and passing notes in church. It is a tool that the devil is using to cause distractions from listening to the message. When one produces or receives messages during a church service, it is like telling God and those around that you don't care about what the preacher is saying or what song is being sung. It says you are careless with your personal testimony, and it insinuates that hearing from your friends is more important than hearing from God.

This is Dad's Rule: phones should be turned off or put on silent and not checked at all until after the service is over. In an extreme emergency, an usher could get a message to a person. In all my life of nearly fifty years, I can remember only one time when someone had to leave the service for an emergency. A person responsible for another person's health or a person on call for the fire department or other health services may need to have a pager, but I would certainly hope that pager could be a silent one instead of disturbing the whole congregation. Teenagers are usually not "on call" or have to be reached before a service is over.

## THINKING ABOUT HOME

By John Green

### More is Caught Than Taught

On school mornings, Mom was up before all of us getting things done in the kitchen. It was a delight to wake up to the aroma of oatmeal on the stove, especially during the winter in Michigan. I always felt like I was eating insulation against those freezing temperatures outside, and we had a bit of a walk and wait to be ready for the bus that stopped at the next street over. By the time we were finished with breakfast, Mom was in the process of building enough peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for a small army. She had our lunch bags already initialed for each one of us, but I made sure there was one with my "JMG" on it. My four brothers and one sister would all be getting ready for school, dressing and gathering homework, and then one by one or sometimes in pairs we tapped on Dad's door where we knew he was on his face before the Lord. We stepped into his room, and he would pray for us before we left for school. Then as we slipped on our jackets and boots, we glanced over to the couch to see Mom. Her duties done for getting us ready for school, she was curled up under a lamp with her Bible. Looking back upon that familiar scene in my memory showed me that on busy days filled with duties, you get it done and then make time for Jesus in your morning; that each day starts with God's Word; that you acknowledge God in all thy ways before you leave the house. That has stayed with me and guided me through a life, marriage, and raising my own family. I treasure this memory as highly as anything in this world.

*End*

# The Contributors' Corner



A big thank you to the youth group of the Maranatha Baptist Church of Lexington, NC!



From left: Mrs. Todd, Mike Todd (son), Pastor Thomas Todd, and wife, Mrs. Betty Todd.

## Regular Support

Aaron Caincross, Greenbush, MI
Bible Baptist Church, Mount Home, ID
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Calvary Baptist Chruch, Manistee, MI
Community Baptist Church, Sault Ste., MI
Don & Faye Green, Lansing, MI
Evergreen Baptist Church, Kalkaska, MI
First Baptist Church, Boyne City, MI
Frank Winesett, Mount Airy, NC
Frieson Family, Saskatoon, SK
Fundamental Baptist Tabernacle, Tyro, NC
Garlow Line Baptist Church, Six Nations, ON, Can
Gloryland Baptist Church, Birmingham, AL
Golden Plains Baptist Church, Manitoba, Canada
Harry & Audrey Koonts, Lexington, NC
Intola Baptist Church, Thunder Bay, Ontario
John Gray, Papua New Guinea

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Kathy Collingwood's SS Class Pottstown, PA
Manton Baptist Church, Manton, Michigan
Maple Grove Baptist Church, Jackson, MI
Maranatha Baptist Church, Lexington, NC
Massillon Baptist Temple, Massillon, OH
New Hope Baptist Church, Kennan, WI
Pierucki Family, Missionary to Romania
Refuge of Grace, Missouri
Ron & Hazel Waters, Scotland
Silvery Lane Baptist Dearborn, MI
Solid Rock Baptist Church, Calgary, AB, Can
Tabitha Williams, Green Mtn., NC
Tim Kahler, Carrollton, OH
White Plains Baptist Church, Mt. Airy, NC
Wilson & Eva Reeves, Schereville, TN



The Bible says, "Give and it shall be given." We thank you who have given so that SAE could be mailed out another time, and we pray that God would give it right back to you. God has been so good to us here at SAE headquarters. The children have all been home for the holidays and have returned to school.

We have had our struggles getting the newsletter produced with Seth, our graphics designer, trying to complete 48 credits in one year to graduate in May so he can get on with life (such as getting married this year.) We would like to be a bi-monthly newsletter, but this past year it has been quarterly. We have big plans for SAE and are looking forward to a full color newsletter in the near future. We are praying for more support instead of a subscription fee. We are trusting God to give us directions and the needed support to proceed.

We do so appreciate the support that has come in, and although it has been slow, God has always provided. May God continue to bless you for your kindness towards this much needed ministry.

# Untangling the Web <span>continued from page 5</span>

Technology - isn't it wonderful? We are nearly helpless without it. What a tool a computer can be! Communication at light speed and most of the world now has at the very least a cyber shop that costs only a few coins to rent a chair, keyboard and monitor.

The Baptists have done it again. We have failed to capitalize on a marvelous tool. We have been slow at the switch of using the computer and the internet as a method of evangelism and teaching to its greatest potential; while the entrepreneurs of sin have made and are continuing to make billions of dollars at the spiritual and moral destruction of our people. They have studied words, phases, profiles, buying habits and interests. The amount of information is staggering. They know where web browsing can take an expert or novice. Anything and everything is available just a few clicks away. Our children are a target. A child, given the freedom to browse alone, can be lured in one small instant. Parents, you cannot afford what it could cost you and your children to allow them free access without accountability. It is worth the investment of time to surf the net for information for a research paper **with** your child or teen.

We as a family feel that accountability is the best safety factor. We use a third party firewall or filter (hedgebuilders@hedge.org). The extra expense is well worth any inconvenience we run into from time to time. My wife and I both have laptops which we use daily to help us to accomplish so much more in the Lord's work. We neither have any securities that would disable the other from using each other's computer. They are always safely up and running and open for inspection. ("Hello; we are a Mac family!") Keep yourself accountable. Life is simpler and better without complicating it with temptation and sin.

*"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." (Philippians 4:8)*

*I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: (Psalms 101:3)*

*The light of the body is the eye:…if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. (Matthew 6:22,23)*

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His/Her Free Subscription

Address Service Requested

# *Soaring as Eagles*
# *Teen Newsletter*

Why run with the turkeys when you can **soar with the eagles?**

## Big things are happening!!

Watch for the next issue of Soaring as Eagles!

### RU SURE UR SAVED

**A**DMIT UR A SINNER - ROM. 3:23

**B**ELIEVE CHRIST DIED 4 UR SINS - ROM 5:8

**C**ONFESS WITH UR MOUTH YOUR BELIEF IN CHRIST JESUS - ROM 10:9,10

AND U CAN B SURE UR SAVED!