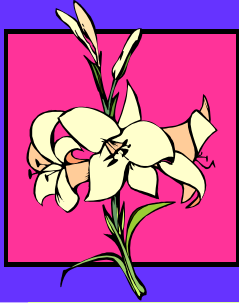


April 2006



SONLIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH

# A Note From Our Pastor

Dear Church,

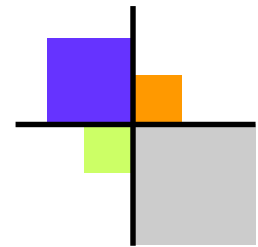
When you first come to Christ, it almost seems like a dream world. Everybody's so nice, so accepting, so quick to shake your hand and take an interest. But the longer you hang around the more you discover about the people of God- you'll find that we all have our differences. For example, different backgrounds, different callings, different opinions and expectations. Getting these differences to mesh into one unified body can be a stretch on our relational skills. That's why we have the Holy Spirit- whose powerful capacity to love can fill our hearts with patience and grace helping us to give others the freedom to live within their own temperaments and even to move at their own pace and express their own reasons for holding to their particular brand of beliefs.

C.S. Lewis said God has a common ground for all and if I can find it, and learn to be happy with it, I'll be one happy person.

Over the next couple of months our SonLife Newsletter will be featuring different families and individuals at SonLife. I hope you take the time to get to know these people and let them know you. Remember the body is a unit though it is made up of many parts, and though all its parts are many they form one body. So it is with Christ. I Corinthians 12:12-26

Blessings,

Pastor Wise



Inside this issue:

From the Lead Worshipper	2
Prayer Corner	2
Easter Schedule	2
SonLife Seniors	2
Homebuilders	3
New Youth Program	3
Women's Ministry	3
PromiseKeepers	3

## • SonLife Community Church

*Pastor Marshall Wise  
6975 Grenada Drive  
Salisbury, MD 21804  
410-548-9863*

We're on the Web!!  
[www.sonlifecc.org](http://www.sonlifecc.org)

Friends, this is from Sheila Walsh's newsletter and I thought it was applicable because the future generation needs our prayers so much.

*"Whether you are a parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle, or friend, there is so much we can pray for our children daily."*

The following is a guide to prayer by an anonymous author.

### How To Pray For The Children In Your Family

Pray that:

1. They come to know Christ early in life.
2. They will develop a hatred for sin. (Psalms 97: 10)
3. They will be caught when guilty. (Psalms 119: 71)
4. They will be protected from evil in each area of their lives: spiritual, emotional and physical. (John 17: 15)
5. They will have a responsible attitude in all interpersonal relationships.
6. They will respect authority. (Romans 13: 1)
7. They will desire right friends and be protected from wrong friends. (Proverbs 1: 10 - 15)
8. They will be kept from the wrong mate and will be saved for the right mate in marriage.
9. They and those they will marry be kept pure until marriage.
10. They will actively resist Satan in all circumstances. (James 4: 7)
11. They will be single-hearted, willing to be sold out to Jesus Christ! (Romans 12: 1 - 2)
12. They will be hedged in so they cannot find their way to wrong people or wrong places.

"Our children are our most precious resource. Let's keep them at the top of our priority list everyday."

In addition to our children, here are other prayer concerns for April, 2006:

- For our pastor, especially as he helps in the mediation process between other pastors in the district, for God's wisdom and favor
- For Easter service, that God would be honored and seeds would be planted in hearts for Him
- For those who feel led by the Spirit to be baptized that they would come forward and be blessed
- For our seniors and their needs including encouragement, joy, strength for each day
- For Sally and the youth ministry at SonLife as she and her team develop this that God would guide and direct their foot-steps
- Health concerns including:
  - Jim Mattson as he battles cancer
  - Christina Mattson with pain and fatigue of M.S.
  - David Mattson as he recovers from foot surgery

As a lead worshipper, I am continually aware that *my own walk with God* is **more** than a personal matter. The choices I make, the quality and intensity of my journey with God, my daily relationships, my attitudes, my thoughts, my words... all of these comprise the person I am and the person that shows up at God's house on a given Sunday. I am one among many, or few, whatever the case may be...but I am one and I am valuable...and so are you!

Whatever the state of my walk with God has been throughout the previous week is the collective attitude that I bring to His house. Have I struggled? Have I had a "great" week? Am I enthusiastic and excited about life or am I just plodding along, discouraged, empty, forlorn? Whatever state I am in is reflected in my corporate worship.

All that being said, I am challenged and blessed as I realize that God is honored and looking for praise from me, even when and especially when, I am feeling discouraged, sad, lost, etc. I am reminded that my relationship with Him is not based on feelings, but in trust and faith and honesty. My worship of Him is a gift to me and to Him...that as I "forget about myself and concentrate on Him", my perspective changes. That is indescribable gift to me...

May you too be challenged and blessed as you "enter into His gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise". This is His Word...His way and it works!!! We sing many choruses that come right from scripture; as you sing and say His Word may you be encouraged and changed into the person He is calling you to become. You are child of God; rejoice!!!



### Easter Schedule

**April 12th, 7:00 p.m.**  
***Worship Rehearsal***

**April 13th, 7:00 p.m.**  
***Maundy Thursday Service***  
***Worship and Communion***

**April 16th**  
***Easter Sunday***  
***Baptism and Resurrection Celebration!***

## SonLife Seniors

Please continue to remember our seniors in your prayers for health concerns and general struggles with growing older. A warm "thank you" to those that continue to reach out to them and invest their time in our seniors' lives.

## New Youth Program Begins! Ladies Team

---

A Youth Leadership Team as been working hard to develop a new Youth Program for our middle, high school and college/career age groups.



Our new mission statement is as follows:

*A ministry for the youth of today and tomorrow, bonded in unity of brotherhood and sisterhood, to celebrate their friendship with Christ, to prepare to be messenger's of God's love, to develop personal spiritual habits, discovering their special gifts and sharing with others.*

Youth Program KICKOFF!!  
Sunday, April 23rd  
5:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.—All ages!!

We hope to see all our young brothers and sisters there!!

---

## Promise Keepers!

This year the event's theme is

**UNLEASHED**

Releasing the Raw Power of your Heart

This year, Baltimore has been selected so that more can enjoy the blessing of this event, scheduled for June 8 – 10, 2006. Pete is looking for those men willing to go and experience His touch on their lives as men of God. We are intending to leave on Thursday for an Oriole's game (\$40.00), but just coming to the conference on Friday is an option.

Conference fee is \$89.00 plus hotel cost (shared). For more information call Pete at 410-860-2411. Deadline for registration is April 30<sup>th</sup>.

*Don't miss the opportunity!*

*We Need Your Help!* – The Ladies TEAM is preparing a basket of gifts and goodies for Missy and John, baby Tyler's family. We would appreciate your cooperation and participation with gift items, such as gift cards from Walmart, gas cards, small snack items, gifts for the baby, etc. If you have questions or would just like to offer financial participation, please see Gilda. We would like to have this ready by Easter morning. Thank you in advance for your love and care.

### *Women of Faith—September 15-16*

There are a couple of tickets remaining for the 2006 Women of Faith Conference in Philadelphia, PA. If you are interested in joining our ladies' team in attending this conference, please see Inge.

*Easter Eggs*—The Ladies' Team is making Easter eggs as a fundraiser for the Women of Faith conference in September 2006. All Easter egg orders or due by Sunday, April 2nd. The eggs will be available after April 5<sup>th</sup>. Make checks payable to SonLife Community Church.

---

## HomeBuilders

Conflict is an obstacle to oneness with our spouse. And, we all face conflict in our marriage, whether we like it or not. There is no way around it! Additionally, most of us are very uncomfortable with conflict and would rather walk around it with a wide circle. To resolve conflict, you will have to be able to forgive. God instructs us to forgive in *Ephesians 4:32* "And be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you." Wow! Whenever it is hard to forgive an offender, I have to be reminded of what God has forgiven me for! From the other perspective, if I were the offender, I would also have to be willing to seek forgiveness. How do you do that? First of all you have to be willing to admit that you were wrong. Secondly, you have to be willing to say that you are sorry. Thirdly, you have to be willing to repent. And lastly, you have to be willing to ask for forgiveness. Do you see that each time YOU have to be WILLING? Also, remember, when you grant forgiveness to an offender, you should do it privately, generously and graciously! Clearly, resolving conflict is a responsibility of both spouses! Are you doing your part?

### April Schedule

In April, Homebuilder's will meet on Monday, the 10<sup>th</sup> and the 24<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm at Pete and Inge's.

Pastoral Staff

Senior Pastor

Marshall Wise

Lead Worshipper

Gilda Wise

Youth Coordinator

Sally Choquette

Fellowship Coordinator

Beverly Hurley

Treasurer

Craig Larson

Office Manager

Sally Choquette

Maintenance Manager

Bob Still



SONLIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH

6975 Grenada Drive  
Salisbury, MD 21804

Phone: 410-548-9863  
Website: [www.sonlifecc.org](http://www.sonlifecc.org)  
E-Mail: [secretary@sonlifecc.org](mailto:secretary@sonlifecc.org)

You're Only A Stranger Once