

SWC

# CONNECTION

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF STERLING WOOD  
NOVEMBER 2016— VOLUME 3

## Sharing God's Love Around the World

*Sterling Wood Church is partnering with Samaritan's Purse to provide gift boxes to children in need around the world with Operation Christmas Child.*

### What is Operation Christmas Child?

Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse. Shoe boxes filled with toiletries and toys go to children all over the world and bring Christmas to many children that would otherwise go without. The boxes also include tracts in their languages, telling children about Jesus and how he died for their sins. The boxes are given out in cooperation with the local churches and missionaries, so they can follow up and help the children learn more about God.



*"Every shoebox gift is an opportunity to touch a child's heart and share the love of Jesus Christ."*

*-- Franklin Graham,  
President of  
Samaritan's Purse*

### How Can I Get Involved?

Grab a pamphlet from the tables in the FLC for information on what to include in the box and how the boxes should be packaged. You will also be able to choose whether your box is for a boy or girl and the age of the child. Any shoe box can be used, although we have some available at the church. Plastic shoe boxes are nice because the receiving child will have a durable container in which to keep their things. When your box is complete, please return it to the table in the FLC no later than **November 13<sup>th</sup>**. Thank you for your support.

## Church Events

- Nov 6—Men's Breakfast
- Nov 9--AWANA Give Thanks cards
- Nov 10—Mom to Mom
- Nov 16—AWANA Eat Around the World
- Nov 17—Lunch Club
- Nov 23—No AWANA Clubs/Office closes at 12
- Nov 24—Happy Thanksgiving
- Nov 30—AWANA

# God's Grace: Received & Given

This was the theme of the Ladies Luncheon on October 15. Over 50 ladies gathered in homes to share a meal and their hearts with each other. Thank you to all the hostesses who so graciously served: Elena Vasques & Gloria Christmas, Ashley and Gayle Redford, Ashley Maley & Meagan Potter, Carrie Husband and Denissa Goins, Melanie Gonzales & Nancy Young, Donna Ditta & Sherrill Ubersnosky, Bertha Brown & Betty Carter.



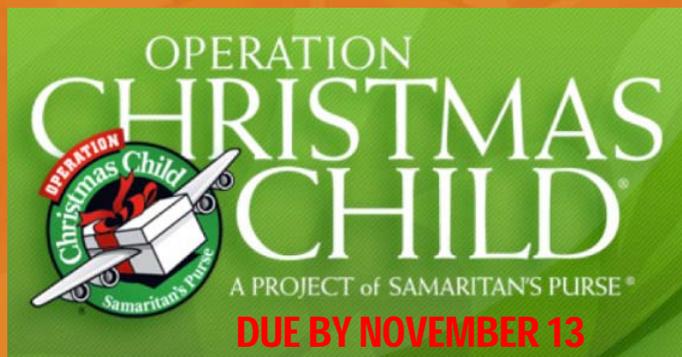
# STAFF STUFF

I love this church. I truly do. We stand in stark contrast to our culture and the pressures around us. And yet...we stand through Christ, our Savior. Yes, we are making some tough decisions now, but that only drives us deeper in our walk with the Lord. He is the one who guides and protects His Bride, the church.

The Bible study, Fresh Encounters is a wonderful reminder that we have a heavenly Father who longs for us to turn away from the cheap substitutes that do not satisfy to Him, the only one who does. When we nurture and invest in the relationship with God, He shows us what a truly fulfilling life is all about.

Let's humble ourselves and turn back to the Lord's loving arms. Then, we can freely let His love flow from us to others.

Blessings,  
Melanie



# New Members



Cesar Palacio



Jeanette Staton



Joyce Allen