



December 2013

New Hope News



2013 WATCHWORD

**“I will give them one heart, and put
a new spirit within them.”
Ezekiel 11:19**

***New Hope
Moravian Church***

God Makes The Impossible...Be Possible!

Dear New Hope Saints,

How can it be that another year has passed us by so quickly? All we have left of this year is the fast-approaching Christmas season that for many will only be filled with the glitter of retailers. Yet, we as faithful servants of Christ Jesus have a choice to barely survive during this season or to immerse ourselves in all of the Christmas festivities and flourish in it. For most of us, the Thanksgiving dinner table has barely been cleared when we begin to feel the immediate pressure of too many things to do before Christmas. We could even start to resent the emotional stress set before us. How should we as Christians face this fast-paced time of the year? This year, why not approach Christmas with the attitude of making it more spiritually gratifying and heartwarming?

Christmas teaches us "God Makes The Impossible...Be Possible!" What God wants done, can and will be done. Christmas teaches us with God all things are possible. Now, I know some of you believe this, and some of you still have doubts. Let me put it this way: If God has a goal for your life and mine...He will bring it to pass. Nothing--No-thing--Zero... can stop it! God is BIGGER than the obstacles surrounding our life. God says, "I've created you; I've given you life, I've made you in the image of my Beloved Son Jesus. You are my child; I have something for you to do. I know in your own strength it will be impossible, but in MY strength all things are possible." Imagine yourself saying to your child, "I want you to go out and plant a garden. Unfortunately, the soil in the garden is full of dirt clods and rocks, but give it your best shot."

Prior to Christmas Day...God gave an enormous task to a young girl named Mary. An angel told her that she would become a mother while she was still a virgin, and that her son would be the Savior of the world. When she inquired of the angel about this seemingly impossible act, the angel simply said, "Nothing will be impossible with God" (Luke 1:37). Now, we as parents would never consider giving our child a task he/she could not complete, and neither does God. His goals for all of His children are achievable and possible; In His strength not ours. Mary was faced with what seemed to be impossible. Yet,

she responded with overwhelming faith saying, “Behold, the bond slave of the Lord; be it done to me according to your word” (Luke 1:38).

Think of what difficulty Mary faced: She was to have a baby without being with a man. She was to raise the boy who would save the world from their sins. The course of all of history would change because of her son. Mary's act of obedience would affect the eternal destiny of billions! The very fact that we celebrate Christmas is proof that Mary's faith in God to do the impossible was all she needed to complete God's will for her life. Here's the lesson for us: We like Mary also need faith in God for us to complete whatever impossible challenges we face in our life.

What struggles do you face this Christmas season? The first Christmas without a loved one? Health issues? Broken relationships? Financial strain? Uncertainty? A broken heart over a child? When you feel overwhelmed with your responsibilities, remember that God is able to do above and beyond all we ask or desire. Christmas teaches us is that God the Father is still looking for humble servants (young or elderly) who are willing to trust Him to do the impossible. This Christmas season; let's give thanks that "God Makes The Impossible...Be Possible!"



In Christ's Love and Service-Merry Christmas,

Pastor Betty

Highlights from the Board

The board met on Tuesday, November 12, 2013. The main topic of conversation was the budget that will be voted on at Church Council on November 17. It did come in a bit higher than previously expected; however, the reason was an increase in utilities and the pastor pension and insurance which was higher this year than previously budgeted. Committees presented reports and updated the board members on events that are currently going happening in the life of the church.

The windows have been finished, and they are beautiful. Christmas Stockings will be given out for the Salvation Army. Several events for the youth are coming up before the end of the year. You can see these in the Christian Education report.

Please contact a board member if you have questions or concerns.

Tom Schultz, Vice-Chair, Almon Carr, Malissa Bumgarner, Jane Bumgarner, Stephen Westmoreland, Karen Warren, Shannon McDonald)

Pam Prevatte, Board Secretary

The Catawba Valley Community Chorus will be having their Christmas concerts on the following schedule. Please come out and support Carolyn and Margie as well as listen to beautiful Christmas music to help get you in the mood!

Sunday Dec. 8, 2013 - Grace Reformed UCC Church in Newton @ 6:00 PM
(117 East J Street)

Monday Dec. 9, 2013 - Trinity Village (formerly Lutheran Home)
on Springs Road @7:00 PM

Tuesday Dec. 10, 2013 -Abernathy Laurens on Hwy. 16, Newton
@ 7:00 PM



December Birthdays

- 1-Richard Elmore
- 3-Amanda Long
- 4-Clyde Allen
- 12-Tom Schultz
- 16-Meggie Bumgarner
- 31-Leela Sain





Chicken and Apple Pie News



Our church is awesome!

Thank you to all of the many who made donations and /or volunteered their time and efforts in making our chicken pie making such a success. After 3 different "makings" we ended up with **437** chicken pies to sell. We have already sold many of them, and have had rave reviews! In fact, we are finding it difficult to hang on to enough to sell at Candle Tea! Don't despair if you have not gotten one yet. We will be making more to sell in February and again in the spring.

We averaged 24 workers per "event" and actually had 2 (some from out of state) guests attend to help us on each of our last two assembly days. Everyone worked hard and had a great time of fellowship, leaving with a huge sense of accomplishment for what we have done for our church.

In addition, several were busy making apple pies that have also been a tremendous hit! All total, there have been **182** made, the majority of which have flown off of the shelf! Or should I say out of the freezer? Many repeat customers and great accolades! A great idea and obviously very popular pie for the fall.



*A sincere "thank you" to Craig deBlois
and SERVPRO for cleaning our carpet
in the church.*



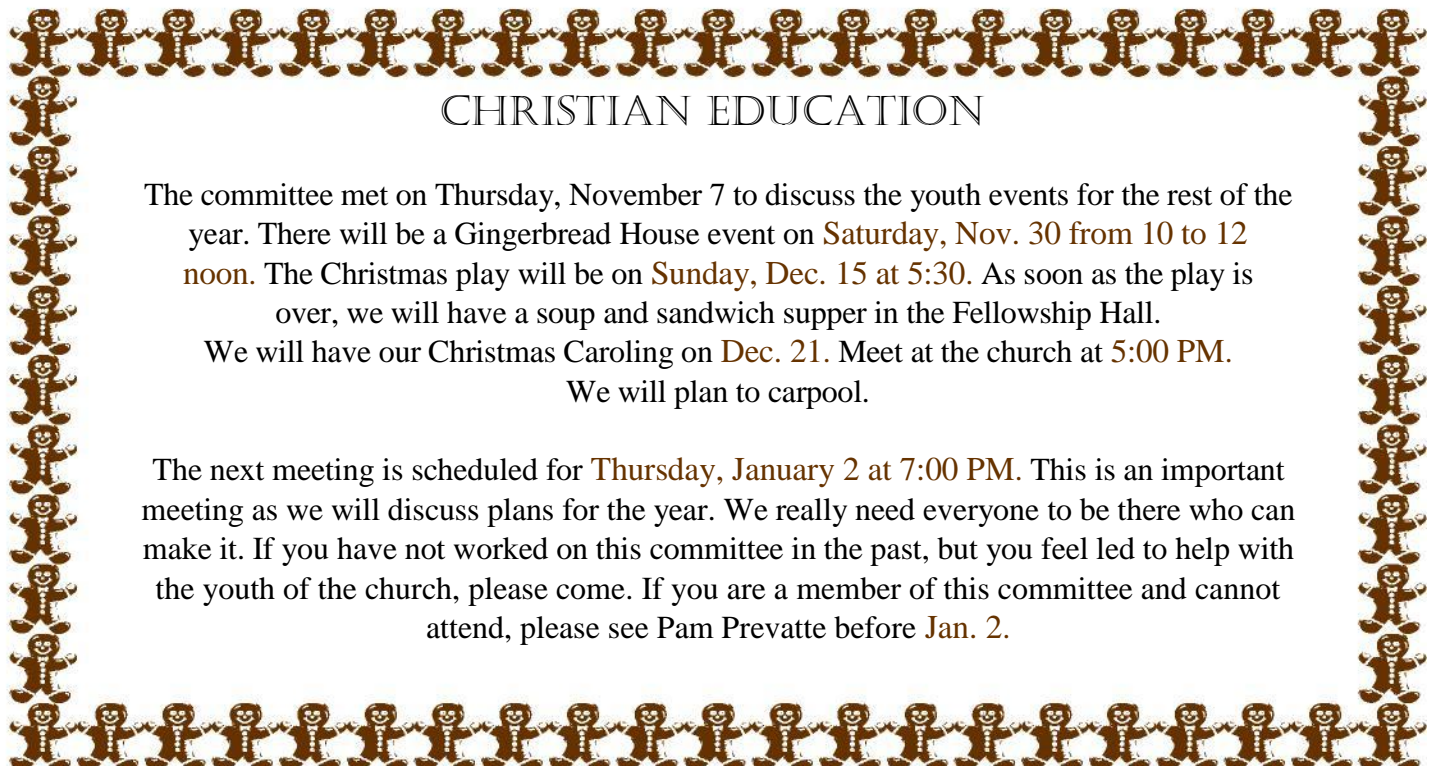
How will you serve at New Hope? Will you serve?

January 2014 will soon be here before we know it. The worship committee will be asking for volunteers to serve Sundays in the nursery, as ushers, and front door greeters for the next 6 months. Please prayerfully consider how you will help your church family at New Hope.

God has blessed each of us in so many ways and calls us into service using those gifts He has given us... a welcoming smile, a friendly handshake, caring for God's precious children, warmly greeting one another or a heartfelt "good to see you today" for our church family and guests as we gather for worship.

When you are contacted, please ask "How can I serve?"

Jane Bumgarner
Worship Chairperson



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The committee met on Thursday, November 7 to discuss the youth events for the rest of the year. There will be a Gingerbread House event on **Saturday, Nov. 30 from 10 to 12 noon**. The Christmas play will be on **Sunday, Dec. 15 at 5:30**. As soon as the play is over, we will have a soup and sandwich supper in the Fellowship Hall.

We will have our Christmas Caroling on **Dec. 21**. Meet at the church at **5:00 PM**.

We will plan to carpool.

The next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, January 2 at 7:00 PM**. This is an important meeting as we will discuss plans for the year. We really need everyone to be there who can make it. If you have not worked on this committee in the past, but you feel led to help with the youth of the church, please come. If you are a member of this committee and cannot attend, please see Pam Prevatte before **Jan. 2**.



Dedication of the Newly Installed Replacement Windows

This past summer, friends and family of New Hope Moravian responded to our “Windows of Opportunity” appeal for replacement windows for the education wing and fellowship hall. Twenty-one windows have now been installed. There will be a *Dedication of the Windows* Sunday, December 1, at the 11:00 worship service. God continues to richly bless New Hope and our ministry to serve Him. ***Thanks be to God.***

Window 1: In Memory of Hobart & Sallie Johnson given by Lessie J. Mann

Window 2: In Honor of Lessie J. Mann given by Steve & Jane Bumgarner

Window 3: Given by an anonymous donor

Window 4: In Memory of Wayne M. Garrett given by Bob & Karen Warren

Window 5: In Memory of Wayne M. Garrett given by Almon & Ann Carr

Window 6: In Memory of Danny Tucker given by Inez Hunt Riley

Window 7: In Honor of “Our Sweet Church” given by Leslie Srail

Window 8: In Memory of Daniel McDonald, Company H, 26th Infantry Regiment,
NC State Troops (CSA) given by Shannon & Carolyn McDonald

Window 9: In Memory of Alexander Griffin Bozeman, Company K, 36th NC Regiment,
2nd Light Artillery (CSA) given by Shannon & Carolyn McDonald

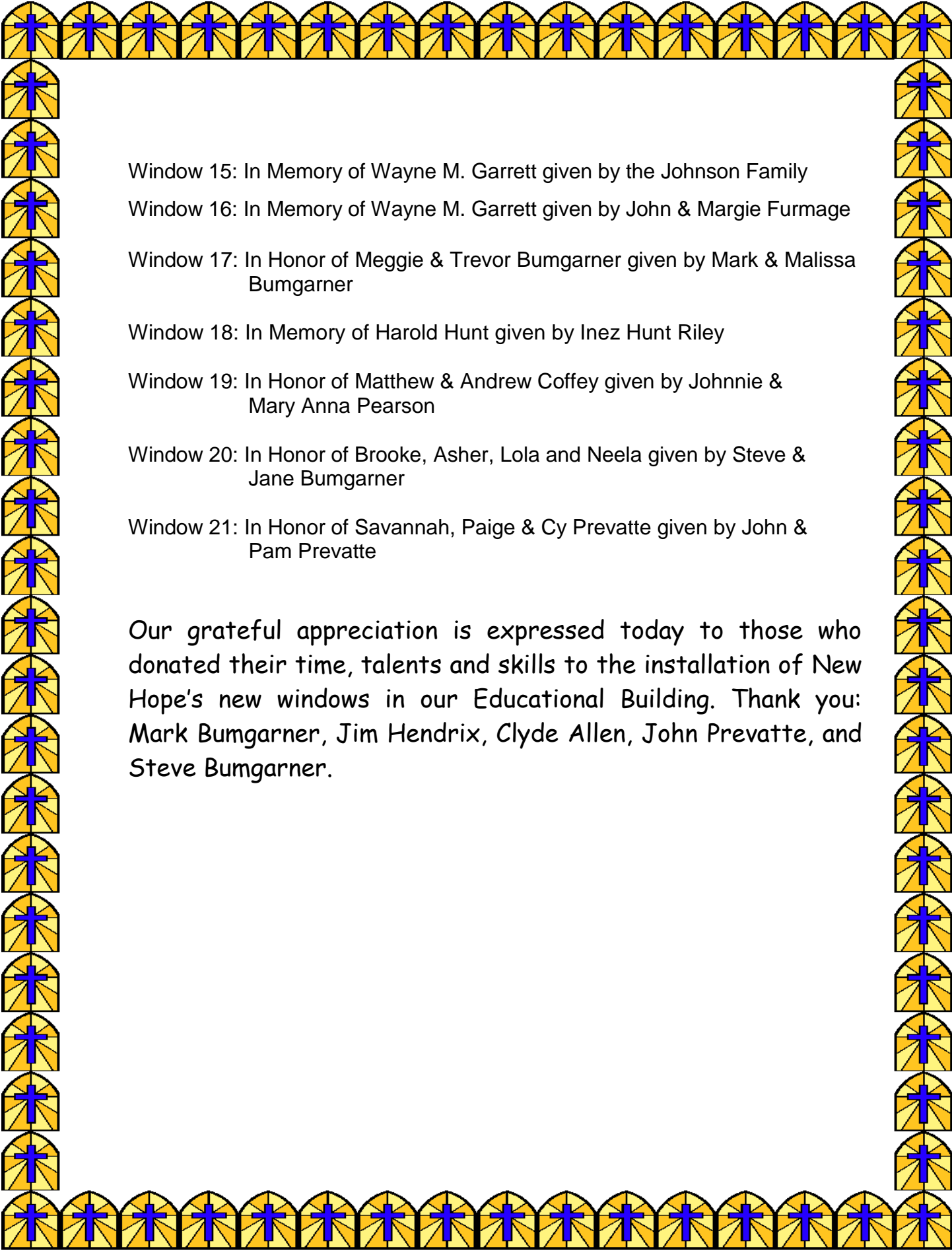
Window 10: In Memory of Hal W. Dotson given by Laura Dotson and Mike & Valerie
Westmoreland

Window 11: “To God Be the Glory-New Hope Be the Love” given by Richard & Jean Elmore

Window 12: “Given to the Glory of God” given by John & Pam Prevatte

Window 13: In Honor of Steve & Jane Bumgarner given by Lessie J. Mann

Window 14: In Memory of Frank Corpening Jr. given by Jim & Cheryl Hendrix



Window 15: In Memory of Wayne M. Garrett given by the Johnson Family

Window 16: In Memory of Wayne M. Garrett given by John & Margie Furrage

Window 17: In Honor of Meggie & Trevor Bumgarner given by Mark & Malissa Bumgarner

Window 18: In Memory of Harold Hunt given by Inez Hunt Riley

Window 19: In Honor of Matthew & Andrew Coffey given by Johnnie & Mary Anna Pearson

Window 20: In Honor of Brooke, Asher, Lola and Neela given by Steve & Jane Bumgarner

Window 21: In Honor of Savannah, Paige & Cy Prevatte given by John & Pam Prevatte

Our grateful appreciation is expressed today to those who donated their time, talents and skills to the installation of New Hope's new windows in our Educational Building. Thank you: Mark Bumgarner, Jim Hendrix, Clyde Allen, John Prevatte, and Steve Bumgarner.



Pray Every Day December 2013

1. Sunday-Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord. Pray for the Woo Family –in Asia.
2. Be renewed in the spirit of your minds. Pray for C & K –in Middle East.
3. I will take you as my people, and I will be your God. Pray for the Ashers –in Sudan.
4. There will be a new heaven and a new earth. Pray for Mohammed & Safiatu Braima in Sierra Leone and team traveling there in December 9 - 19—Donna Hurt, Jeff Fulp, Steve Wilson, and Claire Wilson.
5. He has not rejected my prayer nor removed His steadfast love from me. Pray for the ministry of the Moravian Volunteer Resources.
6. He awakens my ear to listen as a disciple. Pray for the Brents in Croatia.
7. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and they know me. Pray for George and Ruth Goff in Honduras.
8. Sunday-Repent for the kingdom of God is near. Pray for Dusty and Christin Harrison at Clemson University, SC
9. God, our glorious father will give you the Spirit of wisdom. Pray for Bill and Peggy Hoffman– Central Moravian with HIV /AIDS ministry in Tanzania.
10. Be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to anger. Pray for Steve and Ann Marx with MAF, Idaho. in Mexico.
12. What God has promised, he was able to perform. Pray for Phil & Ashley Sineath – Wingate NC, Campus Outreach.
13. This is my commandment, that you love one another. Pray for Louis & Susan Sutton-WEC Int., Singapore.
14. Whoever pursues righteousness and kindness will find life and honor. Pray for Glenna & George Tasedan-Labrador.
15. 3rd Sunday in Advent- Do not be deceived, God will not be mocked. Pray for Michael, Cecilia & Blessing Tesh- Kenya.
16. You bless the righteous; you cover them with favor as with a shield. Pray for Robert, Anne & Philip Thiessen-Mexico.
17. Where your treasure is, there your heart will be. Pray for Bethabara Moravian Church, sharing Christ's love to their community through their food bank and clothing closet.
18. I will fear and glorify your name for you alone are holy. Pray for the Regional Councils of Churches as they seek to serve together.
19. God's word will not return void, but will accomplish its purpose. Pray for Celeste Handy in New Mexico.
20. Pay close attention to yourself and your teaching. Pray for the Moravian Church in Cuba.
21. Six days you shall work, but on the seventh day you shall rest. Pray for the new church in Edeni, Tanzania.
22. 4th Sunday in Advent-The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul. Pray for the Coffee House in Nicaragua to generate income for the province.
23. You shall name Him Jesus, for He shall save his people from sin. Pray for the obliteration of drug traffic in Honduras.
24. Praise be to the Lord, our Savior, who bears our burdens. Pray for the medical staff and provincial leaders in Honduras.
25. Christmas-The law came through Moses, grace and truth came through Jesus. Pray for the Raifords ministering in Juquila, Mexico .
26. Blessed be the God and father of our Lord Jesus, who has blessed us in Christ. Pray for MMM Journeys to Fellowship in NY and FL.
27. Live as Children of the light. Pray for Andrew and Amy Fields and the Bible Institute in Honduras.
28. Bless those who persecute you; do not curse them. Pray for the Antioch Program.
29. 1st Sunday after Christmas I meditate on all your works and consider what your hands have done. Pray for the W.Tanzanain outreach to the Sukuma people.
30. Let each of you look to the interest of others, not self. Pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we explore outreach into the Andes jungle from Peru.
31. By grace you have been saved, through faith, not your own doing. It is a gift of God. Pray for the leadership of the Holy Spirit as we seek means of spreading the Gospel in partnership with others.