

Matthew 25 Happenings

December We had 16 family members come stay with us, in North Carolina they were from Charlotte, Chapel Hill, Waxhaw, Hillsborough, Greensboro and Elizabeth Town. From out of the state we had Orlando and Cocoa Florida and Fairfax, Virginia. We had our Christmas Open House and Santa came to visit and we thank him along with the singing group Bridges who



not only sang beautifully but gave a proceed of CD sales back to the center and we thank them too. Also, thank you to all who provided the delicious treats and punch. The center was decorated like a park and Cheri Green, Debbie Hornbeck, Judy Siko and King's Chapel Church contributed special decorations for us to use.



January There were 15 family members this month. They came from Charlotte, Murfreesboro and Durham in NC and others were from the Virgin Islands, Louisville, Ohio and Fairfax, Virginia. Jill and Lynn LaCour came to stay the last weekend in December and had the opportunity to visit with a new family. Judy Siko came out one morning to stay with our guests. We would like to thank them for doing that. **February** With all of the bad weather around us this month only brought guests from within NC, there were 10 family members and they were from Bolivia, Reidsville, Charlotte and Chapel Hill. Kairos came out on the 7th and 21st for training days. Rock of Ages was cancelled due to the weather and are waiting to hear when they can re-schedule.

As most of you know we had a lot of expense last year again with two air units being replaced, so we will be adding to the fundraising list this year. On the 21st of course is the 5K run in Burgaw info is on the front. The Belk's Charity Sale begins in April and will end May 2nd \$5 coupons will be available soon. May 8th & 9th is the Strawberry Festival in Wallace and June 19th & 20th is the NC Blueberry Festival. We will let you know when the fall Charity sale is and the others once they are decided and dated. We are wanting to work on our volunteer list so if you would like to volunteer to assist with our fundraising efforts please call 259-7133 and will get you on the list. Thanks!

Quarter Bowl Campaign paying off...

We have had some to bring in their sugar bowl change. We just had one to come in the other day and want to remind you that every bit of change adds up, it may not seem like it would help, but it does. So put the bowl where you empty your pockets and fil'er'up.



Last Spring on a Sunday afternoon we took one of our "nowhere" drives thru the country. My husband was quietly driving along some back roads. I was occupied in the front passenger seat watching out the window as the scenery went by.

I noticed out of the corner of my eye that my husband was straining to look out my window. This startled me, since his eyes should be on the road in front of him. I asked him what he was looking at out the windows, and he quietly replied, "Nothing." He could have said he was looking for pine tree crosses for Easter. His eyes went back to the road in front of him.

After a few minutes, I looked over at my husband and noticed a tear running down his cheek. I asked him what was wrong. This time he told me, "I was just thinking about Pop and a story he had once told me." Of course, because it had to do with his Pop I wanted to know the story, so I asked him to share Pop's story with me.

He said, "When I was about 8 years old, Pop and I were out fishing and that's when he told me that the pine trees know when it is Easter."

I had no idea what he meant by that, so I pressed him for more information.

He continued on... "The Pine trees start their new growth in the weeks before Easter -- if you look at the tops of the Pine trees two weeks before Easter, you will see the yellow shoots. As the days get closer to Easter Sunday, the tallest shoot will branch off and form pine tree crosses for Easter. By the time Easter Sunday comes around, you will see that most of the Pine trees will have small yellow crosses on all of the tallest pine shoots."

I turned to look out the window and I couldn't believe my eyes. It was a week before Easter, and you could see all of the pine trees with the tall yellow shoots stretching to Heaven.

The tallest ones shone in the sunlight like rows of tiny golden crosses.

This pine tree crosses for Easter story was written by unknown author.



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The
Matthew 25
 CENTER, INC.

"...inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, you have done it unto me."

Shopping List

Always a need...

- ◆ *Raise the Roof Fund, with your help we can get the needed roof.*
- ◆ *Trash bags small 7gal, medium 13gal, large 33gal, and extra large 55gal.*
- ◆ *Coffee, tea, hot cocoa, individual juices bottles.*
- ◆ *Liquid hand soap, airwick spray refill.*
- ◆ *Laundry detergent, fabric softener, bleach, spot treatment etc...*
- ◆ *Cleaning supplies, scrubbing bubbles, toilet cleaner, disinfecting wipes, floor cleaner, etc...*
- ◆ *Paper products, toilet paper, paper towel.*
- ◆ *Non-perishable foods such as: soups, canned meats, cereal (individual servings), breakfast bars, snack items, etc...*

PROJECT CENTRAL...

If you are looking for projects for you or your Sunday School class, women's or men's group or youth group, we have a few ideas. We have a couple of project to take on at the center like:

We would like a Prayer garden on and around a slab in the backyard also a picnic area. We have 4 wing back chairs that need to be upholstered. The Center needs to be painted.

If you are looking for something for the youth maybe they would like to do a car wash fundraiser for the center or work on a project here.

Give us a call if you would like to lend a helping hand or adopt a project 259-7133. Thank you!

All of you who continue to support us with supplies of all kinds, we so greatly appreciate it. It is such a blessing to have supplies on hand. You are truly a blessing to the Matthew 25 Center.

Thank you.



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1 DAY WITH GOD



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Hours of Operation:
 Monday—Friday 10 am—3 pm