

## Getting to Know You ~

### Jeff & Doria Harms

Jeff and Doria Harms were married on January 5, 2017 – three years, 1 1/2 months ago. Doria had come to North Carolina in 2009 to visit her brothers (Alberto and Oscar) and their families as well as Jeff, Jackie, Chrisy, and Carole. Her parents had visited here also. They all became good friends.

Doria was praying for Jackie and was so sad when she passed away. Although all the families suffered at the loss, the hope of Jesus coming kept them comforted. Eventually Jeff became lonely and being still young, needed somebody as a companion. Chrisy and Carole brought Doria's name up. Jeff felt it would be inconvenient to get to know Doria since she lived too far away in Costa Rica. His family told him he could fly there in four hours. It took some time and thinking. He started talking to Alberto & Yahaira and Oscar & Millie about Doria. They felt both had a lot in common. Looking back, they can see it really was their families who brought them together.

At first Doria was closed to the idea of meeting Jeff. Her parents knew only good things about Jeff because he was good to her brothers. Doria says she would always listen to her parent's advice so she prayed about the situation. She was nervous about the whole thing. She prayed, "God, if you want me to have a husband, let me know." She was feeling more and more restless but God was preparing something for them both. She wasn't

interested in meeting either a divorcee or a widower imagining too many potential problems. Her father said, "Do you realize that Jeff only has one daughter who has children who are good Adventist Christians and she is the one who recommended your name to Jeff?" Actually her parents told Jeff that God was putting him into her life. "God is in this." There were a lot of other little things too that pointed to the two coming together. Doria was changing her mind.

Doria's father told her eleven years earlier that if God had someone for Doria, that person would come right to her door. When Jeff went to Costa Rica, her brothers & their wives and children all knew he was coming – everyone but Doria and her sisters. Jeff came knocking fulfilling that prophecy of eleven years prior. Her parents felt 100% sure God was putting them together.

So Jeff is now in Costa Rica and with a big bouquet of flowers in hand, went to where she was working, up the steps and said, "Special delivery for Doria Alvarez!" This began their relationship and for the next ten days, with her work obligations being canceled, they travel-led with her parents to the beach, to a volcano, to beautiful gardens, etc. They felt they had known each other for years! They went to a city mall to the food court and talked and ate and while talking, Doria excuses herself to the restroom and Jeff has this overwhelming thought, "This is my wife coming back from the restroom."

After ten days, a second trip

came two months later for Jeff when Doria's mother passed away. She had spoken good English and told Jeff that people asked her why Doria was still single. Jeff did not want anyone with children and here is Doria in Costa Rica fulfilling his heart's desire. That first year Jeff made five trips. They were originally going to get married in the US but they discovered Doria's visa had expired so Jeff had to move there in December of 2016. They got married the following year on January 5, a civil marriage. The wedding they really wanted happened on March 21, 2017. They now recall many phone calls and emails; Jeff was always very kind and talked slow with many words to help Doria understand as her English was limited. Once they double-dated with Doria's parents in the back seat of the car who loved seeing Doria and Jeff together. They talked and laughed like little chipmunks in the backseat. Doria told her mom that if she married Jeff, he had a cabin for her and her dad to stay in. Her mom told her to stop

doubting saying "if" so Doria agreed, "When I marry Jeff, he has a place for you two to stay." Her mother now had the security that her daughter would marry Jeff.

Today Jeff says "I have the best wife in the world." Doria says, "I have the best husband in the world." They have morning and evening worship together, go walking, and have breakfast together. They study the Sabbath School lesson together and exercise and have good food. They eat a hearty breakfast and one other meal during the day. They enjoy going to thrift stores together. They like to visit places together. Doria helps Jeff on his jobs. There is always something to do on their property and their four rentals. They have a greenhouse with various vegetables. They also give Bible studies together. As anyone can see, this was an arrangement made by our Heavenly Father! What a blessing to have them as part of our Tryon SDA family.





For more than a century the majestic statue titled “Liberty Enlightening the World” has towered near the entrance to New York Harbor as a symbol of America’s freedom.

The famous sculptor of the statue, Bartholdi, spent twenty years supervising the construction of his masterpiece. He personally helped raise the four million dollars needed to pay for the statue, which was presented by France as a gift to the United States. When the fund-raising program for the statue lagged, Bartholdi pledged his own private fortune to keep the project funded, and practically impoverished himself in the process.

At the start, when Bartholdi was seeking for a model on whom to pattern “Liberty,” he received a great deal of advice from art experts. Most of the leading authorities advised him to find a grand heroic figure as his pattern. After examining countless heroes, however, Bartholdi chose as his model...his own mother. Just as no other statue in the world so eloquently lights the way to freedom, so no other woman so beautifully lighted Bartholdi’s own world.

Remember, your children are watching even the very expressions of your face -- be sure a fair amount of the time it wears a smile.

In march winter is holding back and spring is pulling forward. Something holds and something pulls inside of us too.

~ Jean Hersey



## Church Library

Wanangwa Hartwell

Hi everyone! Just a few more months until camp meeting! Please bring any and all donations to the church library or see me about dropping them off. Remember, what I am unable to use in the library, I can take to camp meeting for credit toward new items. Thank you!



Springtime is the land awakening. The March winds are the morning yawn.

~ Lewis Grizzard



## School

### Lori Busch

The Students at the Tryon SDA School have been busy with some winter projects. On January 20, we celebrated Martin Luther King, Jr. Day with a day packed with in-school activities, ranging from art projects to books to writing. At the close of the day, the students reflected that they wanted to do another themed day.

They were so excited that we immediately began planning our Presidents' Day activities with that in mind. Over the past two weeks, students have done a variety of activities about our Presidents. In grades 4 - 8, each student created a poster about his/her selected president, and they are now on display in the school hallway. The students completed their posters and presented them to all of their peers during an oral presentation. It was wonderful to see the students dress professionally and share what they have learned with their peers. Both layout/display and oral presentation skills can be difficult to learn and refine, but they are critical skills for success in academy and college. Your students put forth a tremendous amount of effort into their projects.

We are continuing our tour of the world and have just finished visiting "Asia". On February 14, the students brought to school wonderful dishes from the country in Asia they had chosen. They all enjoyed a feast of international foods with delicious, authentic Asian foods. The next stop on our year-long adventure is "Africa".

Last week, we received an update from "Maja". She has had her bone marrow transplant, and her body has accepted the new cells. She has had weeks of isolation, but she is starting to regain her strength and looks forward to being able to spend time with her friends and family. On her Facebook page, she shares a touching testimony of the changes her cancer and treatment have made on how she looks at each new day. It is still an uphill battle, but she is remaining positive and growing stronger. Maja stated that she has been touched and encouraged by the cards sent to her by our students and church members as she heals in isolation – that she said they have helped her get through each day. The students in grades 1 - 4 sent her handmade Valentines and just completed robot

Continued on Page 11



## School

### Continued from Page 6

stories and pictures to send her. If you would like to write to her, her address is:

Maja Stefanowska-Cieslak  
934 Mallard Drive  
Rock Hill, SC 29732

There are many upcoming events for our students over the next few weeks – Music Festival at MPA, Outdoor education at NOSOCA Pines Ranch, and dissecting in science to name a few. Please keep all of us in your prayers as we learn and work together.

Thank you for all you do for our students!



The little girls praying is at Tryon Elementary School – the day of the floods (February 6) when we were evacuated by the Fire Department. What a day! They did a great job though!

## If We Knew Each Other Better

Annette Densted

If we knew each other better,  
We would praise where now we blame,  
We would know each bears his burden  
Wears some hidden cross of shame.  
We would feel the heartaches bitter  
They so long alone have borne,  
If we knew each other better,  
We would praise instead of scorn.

If we knew each other better,  
You and I and all the rest,  
Seeing down beneath the surface  
To the sorrows all unguessed,  
We would quit our cold complaining  
And a hand of trust extend;  
If we knew each other better  
We would count each one a friend.

We can know each other better  
If we take the time to try,  
Little deeds of loving kindness  
Make a better by-and-by;  
Just a look of understanding  
Brings a touch of all mankind;  
We can know each other better--  
Yes,--seeking, we shall find.



## Something to Live For

As Told by Vesta Whitmore

The Bucket Brigade is a Conference Community Services program where buckets are stored in the Conference warehouse in South Carolina for future disasters. When Hurricane Florence came through, the Conference gave out 500 buckets per day draining their inventory and did not have enough to fill the critical need. Thus, they received additional buckets from Michigan and Florida. Each bucket takes about \$40 to fill. They are filled with cleaning supplies i.e. laundry and dishwashing soap, Lysol, room deodorizers, garbage bags, scrub brushes, clothes pins, etc.

Vesta decided to get involved. She spoke to our church describing the program, the need, and how our church could help. After her presentation, \$165 came into Community Services for this project whereas prior to this, there was only \$60. Vesta shared that at the next Community Services retreat at NOSOCA Pines, we would need to take 40 filled buckets with us. We currently have about 22 ready. Vesta has even gotten her doctor to commit to filling one bucket as well as her niece from Nashville. She, herself, has a goal of filling one bucket per month. The buckets are filling slowly but surely she says. Lorna happily reported that the Conference gave some funds towards this ongoing project.

Vesta has taken a personal interest in this vital outreach. She says that when she turned 91 years old and had already lost her husband, she felt she had nothing to do. She is also mostly

blind and cannot hear that well. She wondered, "What more can I do?" Then came the buckets. Getting involved gave her a new lease on life and saw where she could personally get involved and make a difference. She says she now has an incentive to get with it.

Vesta initially heard about the program at the Community Services Federation Meeting in mid-January held in Hendersonville. David Graham, Conference Community Services Leader, said that any church that filled ten buckets, he would give \$300 towards the supplies. Thus, our church set our goal for ten buckets, but that soon rose to 20 buckets and currently stands at 40 buckets. David offered then offered \$500 instead of the \$300.

The actual filling of the buckets has taken place at Lorna's home. She sets up boxes on a long folding table plus counters and Vesta picks up one item at a time out of each box and puts it in a bucket. Once the 40 buckets are filled, they will take them to the retreat at Nosoca. There they will bring back additional empty buckets. Vesta says she is looking to continue through the end of the year and maybe longer; it is up to the Lord. She said that our members can either take a bucket personally and fill it or simply donate an offering marked Bucket Brigade. Wouldn't it be wonderful if each member could give anywhere between \$10 and \$20 towards the buckets? For Vesta, the program has given her something to live for and she praises the Lord for it!

## Share Thy Bread

Wanangwa Hartwell

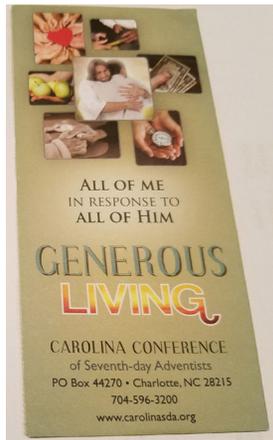
Well, well, I'm just full of good news this month! Our room in the new building is almost ready for us and we have a beautiful, NEW commercial refrigerator waiting to move in! We also got a grant from the Dogwood Trust for \$9000 to buy or build shelving in the new room and get set up with whatever other facilities we need! Praise the Lord -- He is blessing everywhere we turn!

If you're interested in helping with this blossoming ministry, please see Bev or Wanangwa. We can always use help in bringing in the delivery, sorting shelves, cleaning out refrigerators, taking food out into the community and more. If you wish to donate, please mark your tithe envelope "Share Thy Bread" -- even though the grant will cover expenses of outfitting our new room, there is and always will be a need to purchase food. Thank you!

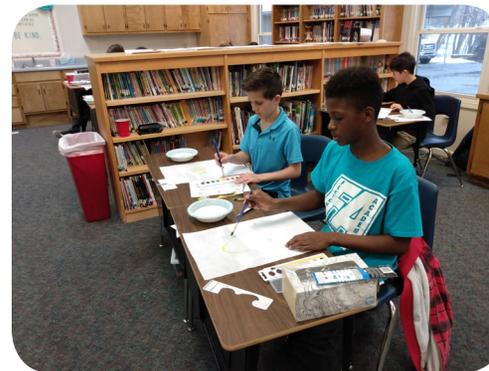
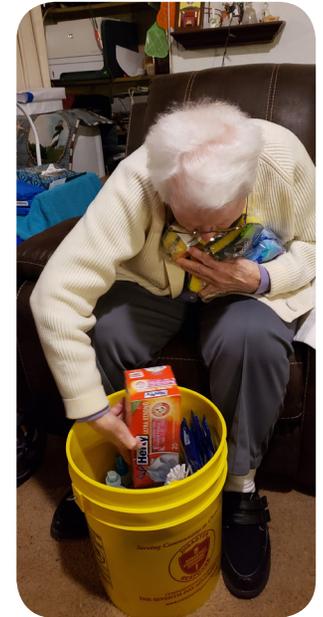


## Children's Friendly Church

To excel as a *Children's Friendly Church* and to help the children learn about Tithes and Offerings, we purchase special Offering Envelopes for our children. These should not be used by our adults as they cost of money whereas the regular Offering Envelopes are given to us FREE. Adults, please be respective of this special feature for the children. Thanks!



Adult Offering Envelope



Children's Offering Envelope



March is a month of considerable frustration it is so near spring and yet across a great deal of the country the weather is still so violent and changeable that outdoor activity in our yards seems light years away. ~ Thalassa Cruso



**\$100**



**\$150**



*Picture these in your home to help you keep your New Year's Resolution!*

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Sara Wolff



Adventurers had a busy month with Adventurer Sabbath and the Pathfinder and Adventurer trip to Gatlinburg Ripley's Aquarium to sleep with the sharks.

The kids did a great job greeting and leading out in church service. After potluck we headed to Tennessee to experience an amazing night at the aquarium. We started our trip with a hike to Laurel Falls. We then headed to the aquarium and we were welcomed by the amazing staff at Ripley's Aquarium. We started with a fun game of Jeopardy and our Pathfinders and Adventurers did amazing answering all the questions. The aquarium staff were amazed on how much the kids knew. After the Jeopardy game we got to pet the jelly fish and the horseshoe crabs.

We enjoyed the stingray show and we also had the opportunity to touch the stingrays.

They also had a fun scavenger hunt planned for us. By now the aquarium was closed so we had the entire aquarium to ourselves. After the scavenger hunt the kids got to play in

Indoors or out, no one relaxes in March, that month of wind and taxes, the wind will presently disappear, the taxes last us all the year. ~ Ogden Nash

the enormous indoor playground and explore the aquarium. Bedtime soon came and we set up our sleeping bags in the shark tunnel. Above us was all the amazing sharks and fish. It was hard to go to sleep but finally everyone fell asleep.

We had to be up by 7 a.m. and get all our stuff put away. By now there was a lot of aquarium staff getting the aquarium ready for their Sunday guests. It was nice to see the behind of the scenes in the aquarium.

We had breakfast and got to see the penguins. After that we headed to the classroom to learn about sharks and even got to pet a little shark! Not many people get that opportunity in their lives. It was a lot of fun. Logan told me this was the best night of his life!

This month we completed the Road Safety award. Thank you Bob Shepard for coming and teaching.

We also completed Cooking Fun taught by Debbie Ford.

We are now getting ready for Fun Day coming up April 5!

Thank you to our church family for supporting our clubs.

March, when days are getting long, Let thy growing hours be strong to set right some wintry wrong. ~ Caroline May

## The Isle of Serendip

Continued from Page 1

one suggests things could change. All I ask is that you read that verse one more time and be on the lookout. God may very well be planning a serendipity in your life.

God has been doing “a new thing” in drab deserts and wintry wastelands for centuries.

God delights in surprising us. He dots our pilgrimage from earth to heaven with amazing serendipities. [Chuck Swindoll, [www.insight.org](http://www.insight.org).]

## School Bells

Wanangwa Hartwell

And we're off! To music festival, that is! Please come support your kids at Mount Pisgah Academy, Friday, March 6, performance starting at 6:30 p.m. (according to the schedule on the MPA website). Please see Lori or Wanangwa with questions, details, or to make sure the schedule hasn't changed! Thank you!



## Thrift Store

Karen Sparks

Our Thrift Store is getting ready for our big move next month. We are all so excited to see what God has planned for us in our new building. What a ministry we are involved with. Our customers are just as excited as we are. Being organized to sell our donations will be a big plus and not having to sell out of boxes will make our store look and feel so wonderful. With everyone's help it will look perfect. Thank you to everyone for your help and blessings during this time. We will be having big sales to move out the winter clothes. We are still selling home good items in the Thrift Store so please stop by and view our donations. Thank you for holding your large items for the new store. Opening date will be published as soon as we are ready.

On a very sad note, we lost one of our volunteers February 23. Cecil Thompson has worked at the store with his wife, Nancy, for many years. He was an excellent worker and loved to visit with the customers. We will really miss him. We pray for Nancy and her family.



## 2020 Co-op Order and Delivery Dates

View Catalog at [www.clnf.org](http://www.clnf.org)  
Place Order with Tim Grindley  
828-817-0130 or [tjgrindley@yahoo.com](mailto:tjgrindley@yahoo.com)

Deadline	Delivery Dates
January 19, 2020	January 27 - January 31, 2020
February 16, 2020	February 24 - February 28, 2020
March 15, 2020	March 23 - March 27, 2020
April 12, 2020	April 20 - April 24, 2020
May 10, 2020	May 18 - May 22, 2020
June 7, 2020	June 15 - June 19, 2020
July 5, 2020	July 13 - July 17, 2020
August 2, 2020	August 10 - August 14, 2020
August 30, 2020	September 7 - September 11, 2020
September 27, 2020	October 5 - October 9, 2020
October 25, 2020	November 2 - November 6, 2020
November 22, 2020	November 30 - December 4, 2020
December 20, 2020	December 28 - January 1, 2021
January 17, 2021	January 25 - January 29, 2021



## Advertising

news@tryonsdachurch.org

Do you have something you wish to sell? A service you provide? Please submit to the above e-mail address. Thanks!

**ALTERATIONS & REPAIRS** - Do your blue jeans need attention? I can usually fix torn belt loops, rips, holes in the pockets or hemming. Has the elastic deteriorated in your skirt or pants? Are your sleeves or pant legs too long? Give me a call @ 828-817-7015. ~ Deb Grant.

**FIREWOOD:** John Cantrell, 828-817-7345 or 828-817-4178. Split. Hardwood. Delivery within 25 miles.

**HONEY for Sale:** Benjamin Owens, 828-287-5866. 24# = \$65. 12# = \$40. 3# = \$12.

**RECUPERATIVE MASSAGE:**  
Roseanne Richards, 864-357-4875.  
Call or Text. Chair Massage on site.  
Therapeutic Massage at Richard's home. (SC #10851; NC #16659.)

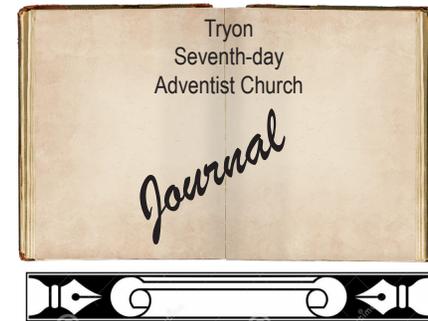
Sunday's  
1160 AM  
12:00 p.m.

**voice of prophecy**

It costs \$60/week to have this on our local radio station. To help keep this program on the air, please mark your Offering Envelope "Radio." Thank you!



- 1 Lloyd Rhymer
- 3 Carole Brenner  
Bev Cook
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- 7 Summer Aguilar
- 9 Douglas Edney  
Robert Gordon
- 12 Jeff Tary
- 13 Dixie Painter
- 17 Virginia Mills
- 18 Maurice Franks  
Sarah Coon
- 20 Dorothy Hornbeck  
Zachery Phillips
- 23 Rick Giebell  
Jordan Phillips
- 25 Wally Ruck
- 26 Sara West
- 30 Damon Hines
- 31 Roger Peden



March, 2020

**The Isle of Serendip**  
Chuck Swindoll

It had been a long time since Horace Walpole smiled. Too long. Life for him had become as drab as the weather in dreary old England. Then, on a grim winter day in 1754, while reading a Persian fairy tale, his smile returned. He wrote his longtime friend, Horace Mann, telling him of the "thrilling approach to life" he had discovered from the folk tale.

The ancient tale told of three princes from the island of Ceylon who set out on a pursuit of great treasures. They never found that for which they searched, but en route they were continually surprised by delights they had never anticipated. While looking for one thing, they found another.

The original name of Ceylon was Serendip, which explains the title of this story - "The Three Princes of Serendip." From that, Walpole coined the wonderful word "serendipity." And from then on, his most significant and valued experiences were those that happened to him while he was least expecting them.

Serendipity occurs when something beautiful breaks into the monotonous and the mundane. A serendipitous life is marked by "surprisability" and spontaneity. When we lose our capacity for either, we settle into life's ruts. We expect little and we're seldom disappointed.

Though I have walked with God for several decades, I must confess I still find much about Him incomprehensible and mysterious. But this much I know: He delights in surprising us. He dots our pilgrimage from earth to heaven with amazing serendipities.

Isaiah's words make me smile every time I read them because I have seen their truth come to pass time and again. God still stands behind this promise:

See, I am doing a new thing!

Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?

I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland. (Isa. 43:19 NIV)

Your situation may be as hot and barren as a desert or as forlorn and meaningless as a wasteland. You may be tempted to think, "There's no way!" when some-



# Feet

(from *Nature Nuggets* by Harold W. Clark)

The human foot is designed for walking, but not for running, crawling, leaping, or climbing. The two arches of the foot give a springiness to the step that is not found in any other creature. God made man upright and fitted him for an upright life.

The horse, with his single hard hoof, is fitted to live on the hard

ground of the plains. Cattle, with split hoofs, can walk on much softer ground, because the two hoofs spread and give better support.

The caribou's hoof is very wide, so that it does not sink into the snow. During the winter the inner part shrinks, leaving a sharp edge that prevents slipping on ice.

What an amazing God we serve, Who thought of all these differences and even created adaptations to help the creatures after the fall into sin.

