## Tributaries Love

February / March 2009



SERVE ONE ANOTHER IN LOVE.

GALATIANS 5:13, NIV

Rivers of Life
Outreach Ministries

204 McCandless St. Arnold, PA 15068 (724) 339-1135

Pastor Marvin E. Hill & Sister Diana Hill

Weekly Services Sunday Morning Service and Children's Church 11:00 AM

Community Youth Bible Study Tuesday 7:00 PM

Bible Study & Prayer Meeting Wednesday 7:00 PM

> Radio Ministry "Living Waters" W.G.B.N. AM 1150 Fridays 10:00 AM

Transportation to weekly services available upon request



It is our hope that no one feels like a stranger in this house of worship. May each of us be open to friendship and acceptance as God's children.

Welcome!



### Rivers of Life Outreach Ministry

Pastor Marvin E. & Sister Diana Hill

### Vision Statement

We exist as a New Testament church where the Word and the Supernatural work hand in hand; where ministries are birthed to address the needs of the community, and a place where the Body of Christ (locally and collectively) can be edified and strengthened. We are a multi-cultural fellowship called to exemplify the true Body of Christ.

### Mission Statement

We are called to EVANGELISM:

To reach people of all ethnic and cultural backgrounds; from every economic level, and from every facet of society.

### We are called to TEACHING/INSTRUCTION:

To provide guidance, knowledge and tools for the development of each person's gift and ability.

### We are called to **SERVICE:**

To provide an avenue for each individual within the Body to fulfill their ministry to the fullest extent, exercising their God-given gifts and abilities.

### Our motto is TAKE IT TO THE STREETS!!

To discover more about our ministry, please join us at one of our services or visit our website at:

www.roloutreach.com



WOW! 2009 is here and thank God 2008 is gone. So—what can I say or what do you expect me to say? As I'm sitting here, pondering over this past year, I can say that I really learned some valuable lessons. Here are some of them:

- 1. God continues to be Faithful and True-despite us!
- 2. You win some; you lose some! But what is most important is the move or the step taken after, for it reveals what is in us.
- 3. Procrastination is our constant enemy— It promotes and even reveals a "lazy spirit". We know a lazy spirit is never ready for the "now"!
- 4. People come and people go! Some change and others refuse to change--- Understanding this will minimize your frustration level!
- 5. Motivation has to come from deep inside of us---- You can't depend on people or events to prompt, fan or sustain your passion, dream and goals. It has to flow out of What God said and my commitment to that!
- 6. The only person's commitment I'm sure of is my own——
  This deserves an explanation: This is a direct quote from
  Bishop Jakes which made me pause and think, and hopefully
  you also. What came to me was that if all of us would take that
  approach, there would be no lack, no want, no missing link in
  our chain. To be able to say: "I am dependable, even if no one
  else is"; "I'll do it, even if no one else sees the need of it being
  done"; "I show up even if no one shows up; "I'll go, even when it
  is not convenient" COUNT ON ME!

I think that was what Jeremiah was saying to God when he said: "Send me--I'll go!" In our vernacular he was just saying-COUNT ON ME!

These are the truths from 2008 that will help navigate me through the uncertainties of 2009. I am totally excited because this is the year of COMPLETION and my eyes are on the prize! Pastor

I myself am convinced, my brothers, that you yourseves are full of goodness, complete in knowledge and competent to instruct one another.

2 Corinthians 7:16 NIV



#### Freedom

Freedom is a great word. We declare it all the time don't we? But as I get older and experience issues both self made and those that come with just living, I realize that freedom is a hard word and something not easily attained.

I'm not questioning God's ability to free us. Certainly through the blood of Jesus that's already accomplished. But accepting and walking in that freedom....well that saints and friends is altogether different. I'll talk from personal experience here. See if you can relate.

#### The Revelation:

There is a situation, circumstance, person, relationship etc. from which you need free. At first you have no clue. Whatever the situation, circumstance, addiction, relationship, etc is, you generally like it at first...then you love it...then it becomes a little overwhelming...then it smothers you and begins to threaten to change the essence of who you are as a person...when it gets to this point you don't even know how you got here. How in the world did something fun and fulfilling become life threating??

If you take an honest look back. There were warning signs. People told you. They warned you. They saw the road you were going down. But you blew them off. For many reasons. One of which is that, you thought they were trying to control you and you weren't going to give them that kind of power. Another reason? Maybe you thought they didn't understand. They didn't know how it made you feel and you don't owe them any explanation...after all, you're grown...(smile) Maybe you thought they were jealous or didn't want to see you happy or fulfilled. Whatever the case may be, you have to acknowledge there were warning signs.

Now the revelation. The light that God shines in on your darkness...your shocked at the revelation that what has been fun, exciting, validating, and fulfilling under God's piercing light has shown up to be, in fact, murderous poision that you've been chugging willingly!

But can you admit it? This is the crazy part. The poision that taste so good is now starting to actually...well...poision you. Your organs are starting to shut down, you're becoming disoriented. You're losing the color in your skin. You're losing your vision and ability to reason. You didn't know what was happening before. But God's light has now shown you. Poision.But you have to say it. You have to admit it.

You have to verbalize it. It must come from your mouth. This \_\_\_\_\_ (insert your person, place, or thing) is poision.

God demands you acknowledge it and until you do there will be no freedom. Most of us get stuck at this point and can go no further. Isn't that scary. With all the affects that this poision is having on us, and sadly the people around us, we will not acknowledge that it is poision and eventually, many end up dying from it. Simply because we will not accept God's view on the matter.

### Putting the cup down:

Ok. If you've acknowledged the poision. And this is a mighty big IF. Now it's time to put the cup down. Again, it seems so silly doesn't it. If something or someone is slowly killing you and you realize it, common sense says drop it so you can live. But there is a problem: You've grown accoustom to the poision, You know it's killing you, but you don't know what to do with out it. In an unbelieveable plot twist, when you attempt to put \_\_\_\_ (insert your person, place, or thing) down you feel like you're going to die.

Huh? Let me say it again. When you initially put the poision down, it feels like you're going to die...when in essence it is the poision that is killing you. But you think it's saving and sustaining you. Whoa. So we pick the cup back up and start drinking again. And we feel better...

as we slowly begin to die again.

#### The Scream

If you love Jesus.

If you've acknowledged the poision.

If you've initially put the cup of poision down.

If you've picked the cup back up.

Then you probably have had the scream.

It's from your depths. From your soul. From the deepest hurt and pain that you've ever felt. You realize your dying. You realize you can't put the poision down alone. You realize things aren't going to get better if you don't get some help. So you yell out to God.

HELP ME. GET THIS AWAY FROM ME.

I CAN'T DO THIS ON MY OWN.

Any one of those or a combination of them is what I call the Scream!

This is a completely emotional scene because you realize you're going to die from something you can't give up... to be continued in the next Trib...

Sis. Sherri



\*\*Come join us every Tuesday ~ 7:00PM

@ Rivers of Life!

### HOUDAYS & CELEBRATIONS

### The significance of Lent

Lent is the fourth season of the Christian year. Its length is the 40 days preceding Easter Day, not counting Sundays. This means Lent always begins on a Wednesday, known as Ash Wednesday.

Lent commemorates Jesus' fast and temptation in the wilderness of Judea Province, which, according to the Gospel, lasted 40 days. Just as Jesus confronted his temptations during these 40 days, Lent helps Christians focus on our most basic need as sinners: forgiveness.

The only way our Lord's forgiving power can become effective in our lives is by our taking the initiative to confront our sins, confess them and repent of them. In short, Lent is a season of penitence.

Some Christians fast during Lent. This denial of bodily comforts can help ecourage self-reflection about the need for Jesus' forgiveness.



### A day for ashes

Since the Middle Ages, Christians in the so-called

Western Church have observed Ash Wednesday (the 7th Wednesday before Easter) as the first day of Lent. On this day, in many churches, worshipers receive ashes on the forehead as a reminder of their sorrow for their sins. The ashes are often made by burning palm branches left over from the previous year's Palm Sunday. Ash Wednesday is February 25 this year.

#### What is Lent?

It is forty days of stripping down

to the living essentials;

It is forty days of facing truth

about one's self-indulgent evasions;

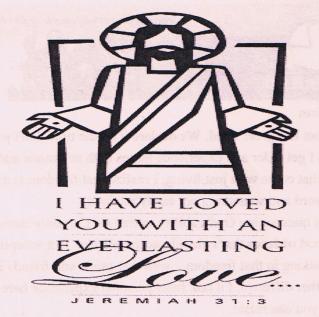
It is forty days of fellowshiping

with Christ in the desert;

It is forty days of rejoicing in God's

mercy and forgiveness.





### Valentine's Day

In the early Christian church, there were three priests named Valentine or Valentinus. Though they didn't live at the same time, each was said to be holy and each had been martyred for his faith. All three priests were designated as saints. Around the year A.D. 498, Pope Gelasius declared February 14 as St. Valentine's Day.

Valentine's Day came to be associated with love, romance and marriage. The day is now so popular that only during the Christmas season do people mail more greeting cards.

No matter how any cards, flowers or sweets you receive this Valentine's Day, be assured that God loves you with an "everlasting love" (Jeremiah 31:3, NRSV).

### Valentines to give your children

- Acceptance Teach kids that you love them for who and what they are. Give this gift with a kiss.
- Self-confidence Help children understand that they can trust themselves. Give this gift with a hug.
- Life without needless fears Don't let your kids see you as a worrier. Give this gift with laughter.
- Appreciation Hep children acquire a spark of gratitude and enjoy all of life. Give this gift as they go out the door.
- Faith Introduce our children to God, the best friend they'll ever have. Give this gift by taking them to church every Sunday.



In light of African American History
Month, it seemed befitting to spotlight
African American's who have changed
the world with the Gospel. Read on to
learn about just a few world changers...

February 2, 1911 -- During a morning devotional hour at Central Texas College in Waco, a teacher, Eliza George, has a vision of black Africans passing before the judgment seat of Christ. They are weeping and moaning, "No one ever told us You died for us." A few years earlier, while a student at Guadalupe College, Eliza George had responded to an invitation for volunteer missionary service. Now, she felt a vision was prodding her to go to Africa. The college president tried to dissuade her: "Don't let yourself get carried away by that foolishness. You don't have to go over there to be a missionary -- we have enough Africa over here." It would be two more years before Eliza George got up enough courage to leave her teaching position and head to Liberia. In her resignation speech, she read an original poem: "My African brother is calling me; Hark! Hark! I hear his voice . . . Would you say stay when God said go?" On December 12, 1913, Eliza George sailed from New York as a National Baptist missionary.

February 12, 1865 -- Presbyterian minister Henry Garnet becomes the first African American to preach a sermon in the U.S. House of Representatives. Born a slave in Maryland in 1815, Garnet escaped to New England with his father when he was nine years old. In 1852 Garnet went to Jamaica as a Presbyterian missionary. Ill health forced his return to the U.S. in 1855 where he became very active in the abolitionist movement.

February 13, 1824 -- One hundred and five black emigrants from the U.S. arrive in Liberia on the ship *Cyrus*. They were received by Lott Cary and Colin Teague who had arrived three years earlier to begin an era of missionary expansion by American Negro Baptists. They were the first missionaries sent out by a black group, the Richmond African Baptist Missionary Society.

February 14, 1760 -- Birth of Richard Allen, founder in 1816 of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) denomination. By 1886, the Church was the world's largest denomination of African Americans.

It had more than four hundred thousand members, nearly three thousand ordained ministers, more than three thousand church buildings, and had sent missionaries to Haiti, San Domingo, and Africa. In 1893 AME headquarters received a request from a group of Afro-Cubans to send missionaries to their island.

February 16, 1922 -- About this date, Jamaican-born Montrose Waite received a letter from the Christian and Missionary Alliance mission board saying they wanted to send him as a missionary to Africa. Waite had won the battle against prejudice and rejection and even friends who urged him to the stay in the U.S., his adopted country. Waite would serve as a missionary in Sierra Leone and Liberia and would be instrumental in the founding of the Afro-American Missionary Crusade (1947) and the Carver Foreign Missions organization.

February 20, 2000 -- A heart attack claims the life of Marilyn Lewis, volunteer at the United States Center for World Mission who helped lay the groundwork for their African American Mobilization Division. A school teacher in Pasadena, CA, Marilyn often spoke of her desire to serve as a missionary in Brazil, reaching the descendants of those who had come from Africa. Just prior to her unexpected death, Marilyn had written a call-to-action article: "Just look at an African-American church today and you can see testimony to our new era: richly decorated, air conditioned sanctuaries with carpeted floors are now quite common. Many drive to church in the latest model cars. Today, instead of working the tables at restaurants, many African Americans own them. God has blessed us. Now it is time for the African American to bless the world in evangelization efforts. In the past many African Americans cried because they could not become involved in missionary work. But now the doors are wide open and we are without excuse."



PRAY FOR
OUR
PRESIDENT!

### MILESTONE!

Barack Hussein Obama was sworn in as the 44th president of the United States on Jan. 20, 2009. The son of a black man from Kenya and a white woman from Kansas, he is the first African-American to ascend to the highest office in the land.

### Entertainment

### Coming soon to theatres...

### Tyler Perry's Madea Goes to Jail



After a high-speed freeway chase puts Madea in front of the judge, her reprieve is short-lived as anger management issues get the best of her and land her in jail. A gleeful Joe couldn't be happier at Madea's

misfortune. But Madea's eccentric family members the Browns rally behind her, lending their special "country" brand of support. Meanwhile, Assistant District Attorney Joshua Hardaway is on the fast track to career success. But Hardaway lands a case too personal to handle defending young prostitute and former drug addict Candace Washington - and asks his fiance and fellow ADA Linda Holmes to fill in on his behalf. When Candace ends up in jail, Madea befriends the young woman, protecting her in a "motherly" way as only Madea can.

Release Date: February 20th, 2009 (wide)

MPAA Rating: PG-13 for mature thematic material, drug content, some violence and sexual situations.



GodTube, the world's largest Christian social network, is the premiere place for Christians to connect to share their lives online through videos, photos, blogs, and where they can come to post prayers and read the Virtual Bible.

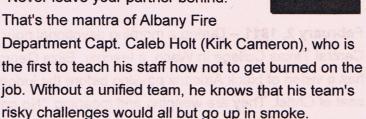
For the last year GodTube has created a way for ministries, churches, bands, and individuals to create accounts and find ways to unite the body of Christ. There are even more new things coming in early 2009 that will allow users to reach beyond the four walls of the church and take the message of Christ to the world.

Check out all that GodTube has to offer. Join GodTube today... You can find them at www.GodTube.com.

In stores now...

'Fireproof: Ignite Your Marriage Without Getting Burned (DVD)

"Never leave your partner behind." That's the mantra of Albany Fire



Unfortunately, Caleb can't seem to apply that same principle of servanthearted unity in his marriage to Catherine (Erin Bethea). Caleb must learn to speak the language of unselfishness, tenderness, and godliness to his wife before their marriage incinerates.

Part of that restorative program comes from Caleb's father, who suggests that Caleb follow a 40-day challenge called The Love Dare. Besides giving daily Scriptures, the Dare suggests practical ways to show love to a spouse. Grueling as the activities are for Caleb, in the process of working on his marriage, he has a change of heart, finds the strength to love unconditionally, and wins back his wife's respect.

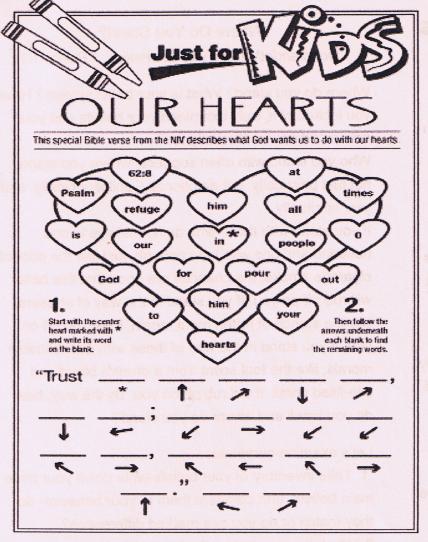
'The Love Dare' is a 40-day guided devotional designed to strengthen every marriage. It's featured in the movie Fireproof.



For more information and helpful resources, check out the website www.fireproofmymarriage.com or visit Family Christian Store.

### CHECK OUT THE LIVIN' RIGHT WEBSITE ~ www.livinright.org

Read the biographies of our youth pastor, Sister Sherri Lynn Johnson, and the rest of the Livin' Right Crew. Check out the tools to help you walk out your Christian life. You can listen to the broadcast, see upcoming events and more. The articles, videos & links to other websites can really help you LIVE RIGHT!



Answer: "Treat in him at all times. O people, poor out your beaus to him, for God is our relage," Psalm 62:8

E D E E Y D 0 G E 0 N 0 N C S P 0 D G S NNAHS

In the 8th century B.C., a prophet of God condemned the sinfulness of many of Jerusalem's citizens. On behalf of God, he chastised anyone who abused power, was unjust toward the poor and used bribes and position to gain money and status. He even condemned prideful women who walked "with outstretched necks, glancing wantonly with their eyes, mincing along as they go, tinkling with their feet." (He was referring to little bells attached to women's ankles.) Who was that prophet?

- A. Isaiah
- B. Amos
- C. Hosea
- D. Jeremiah



(See 3:16 ff, NRSV, of the book with the prophet's name.)

Anwer: A

### Hush ... hush

Seven-year-old Kathy tried to quiet her younger brother during a church service.

"Hush . . hush," she warned him. "You're not supposed to talk out loud in church."

"Why?" asked the brother. "Who's going to stop me?"

Kathy pointed to the rear of the sanctuary. "See those men standing back there? Well, those are the hushers!"

	Serve page and	WORD SEARC
Affection	Enjoyment	
Allegiance	Fervor	
Amorousness	Fidelity	Rapture
Appreciation	Flame	Regard
Ardency	Fondness	Relish
Ardor	Friendship	Respect
Attachment	Hankering	Sentiment
Cherishing	Inclination	Soft Spot
Crush	Infatuation	Taste
Devotedness	Involvement	Tenderness
Devotion	Partiality	Weakness
Emotion	Passion	Worship
Enchantment	Piety	Yearning



### What Tony Snow learned

When Tony Snow was 17, he watched his mother die of colon cancer. In his early 50s, he learned that he, too, had the disease. Sadly, it was too late to do much about it.

As White House press secretary, Snow sometimes shared with members of the press what he was going through. At one gathering, he told what he'd learned during his ordeal. "You have to learn something that is very hard in the modern era," he said, "and that is you have to give yourself to God, to surrender."

Snow discovered that he could find joy even in sickness. Beyond the pain and worries about his family, he sensed God's telling him that he was more blessed than he realized. God was preparing him for his graduation to the Father's house.

When Snow died, he experienced the promise of Scripture: "Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life" (Revelation 2:10, NRSV).

### Silence is trust at work

"The purest faith has to be tested by silence in which we listen for the unexpected, in which we are open to what we do not yet know, and in which we slowly and gradually prepare for the day when we will reach out to a new level of being with God." —Thomas Merton

"Our economy, peace and lives depend upon a healthy sustainable environment. If we are out of sync with creation, we are out of sync with the Creator."

-Doug Bland

"He who has a thousand friends has not a friend to spare; and he who has one enemy will meet him everywhere."

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

"In a world where people are looking everywhere for signs of God, where have you found God? What have you done about it? And who will you tell?"

—Robert Gorrell

"Love has nothing to do with what you are expecting to get, it's what you are expected to give — which is everything."

#### —Vittorio Alfieri

#### Where Do You Stand?

"nor standeth in the way of sinners..." Psalm 1:1

Where do you stand? What is your belief system? Have you looked at it, truly examined your beliefs and your actions? If so, are they aligned?

Who you stand with often suggests where you stand, not just physically, but emotionally, philosophically, and yes, spiritually.

If you stand with those who do not believe in one husband and one wife long enough, just like the odor of cigarette smoke, the chances are good that this belief will rub off on you. If you stand in the way of abusers, like the stench of rotten meat, again, it will rub off on you. If you stand in the way of those with questionable morals, like the foul scent from a drunk's blood and bile-filled vomit, it will rub off on you. By the way, how do you smell and where do you stand?

#### Let's examine ourselves:

- 1. Take inventory of your beliefs-write down your three main beliefs, and compare them to your behavior- do they match or do you see marked differences?
- 2. What changes in friends, family, atmosphere are you willing to make in order to "stand" in the right place?
- 3. Do you have a plan for success- who will help you succeed?

By: Bishop Donald Hilliard, Jr. He is the Pastor of one church in three locations in New Jersey: Cathedral International in Perth Amboy, Cathedral Assembly by the Shore in Asbury Park, and Cathedral Assembly in the Fields in Plainfield.

Special thanks to Bro. Jerry Richardson for submitting this devotional!

True Love Grows Through sunshine, rain,
Through smiles and tears,
Through sickness, health,
And passing years,
True love still grows

More firm and sure.

More deep and strong.

More sweet and pure.



Peggy Ferrell, Prayers and Poems



Join us at one of our services and see how we can help you develop your Christian walk. Here's a list of some of our ministries.

And there's more to come!

Children's Ministry To teach children about God, Jesus, and the Bible. to train the children according to Biblical ethics and values; to give them happy, peaceful and pleasing memories of church that will cause them to continue throughout their teen and adult life; to use Biblical lessons as a means of changing their lives and ultimately the lives of thier families; to give the children a haven where they feel special and loved.

Youth Ministry This youth group exists to create a godly atmosphere where young people can be comfortable; necessary for their spiritual growth in Christ to identify their God-given gifts and abilities; and to give them the opportunity to flourish in service to God. "M3" Mighty Men in the Making To reach young men ages 12-21 with the truth and love of Christ by providing mentoring, education, and promoting spritual growth.

"Wellspring" Women's Ministry To provide a forum where women's needs and concerns can be addressed by the "Living Word of God"; to create an environment of openness, regardless of marital status, ethnic or cultural background; to empower women to be victorious and useful presently and in the future.

Hospitality Ministry This ministry in our church is used to tend to the hospitality & pulpit needs of the church. A big part of our Hospitality/Pulpit Ministry is the Interfaith Hospitality Network. This network supports homeless families who spend one week a monthly staying at our church.

Music Ministry To provide an atmosphere in which the Father will be pleased to inhabit; to cause the worshipper to move beyond the "Sunday Morning" experience to a lifestyle of Praise and Worship; to minister in the Spirit that so lives will be changed through salvation, healing, deliverance and encouragement.

Christian Counseling Services To use Christian counseling as a vital tool in ministering to those deeply hurting; to be a voice of reasoning in their struggle to overcome; to give people a helping hand in rising above their problems and circumstances.

nd P st	STAFF LISTING Jonathan Adams	MINISTRY Media Ministry/ Webmaster
Si	Charisse Blackwell	Director of Hospitality
18,	Angela Cintron	Co-Director of Children's Ministry/ Webmaster
al	Joe Cintron	M3 (Mighty Men in the Making) Director/ Youth Leadership
	Rev. Constance Hill	Associate Minister
l en	Diana Hill	Administrative Assistant
en	Rev. Lynn R. Hill	Minister of Music
	Rev. Marvin E. Hill	Pastor
ist	Ruth E. Hill	Associate Minister
1.	Rev Dr.Wilson T. Hill	Associate Pastor
	Beverly R. Johnson	Financial Director
	Rev.Sherri L. Johnson	Youth Pastor
	Cami McDonald	Newsletter Editor
y	Jerry Richardson	Transportation Ministry
	Sharon Richardson	Director of Children's Ministry
	Monica Storrs	Secretary



Christian Counselor

Robert Waterloo

"I just can't help it.....I seem to always have this obsessive urge to follow."

### Looking Ahead

### **Special Dates**

- · African-American History Month
- Boy Scout Sunday, February 8, 2009
- Valentine's Day, February 14, 2009
- Presidents' Day, February 16, 2009
- Transfiguration of the Lord, February 22, 2009
- Ash Wednesday, February 25, 2009
- First Sunday in Lent, March 1, 2009
- World Day of Prayer, March 6, 2009
- Second Sunday in Lent, March 8, 2009
- Daylight-Saving Time begins, March 8, 2009
- · Girl Scout Sunday, March 8, 2009
- Third Sunday in Lent, March 15, 2009
- First Day of Spring, March 20, 2009
- Fourth Sunday in Lent, March 22, 2009
- Fifth Sunday in Lent, March 29, 2009

February 2009 S M T W T F S									
S	M	T	W	T	F	S			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7			
8	9	10	11	12	13	14			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21			
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22	23	24	25	26	27	2			



# Spring | 15 16 1 | 22 23 24 | 29 30 3





DON'T FORGET Set Your Clock Ahead March 8

The youth are going to Wildwood for Snow Tubing Feb 21st @ 12:00PM

The cost is \$12 per person



See Sis. Sherri for more details

### Men and Boys of all ages

Come Join us for food, fun & Fellowship! We meet at 9:00 AM at Denny's in New Kensington the 2nd Saturday of each month. For more info see Br. Joe Cintron





WANTS YOU!

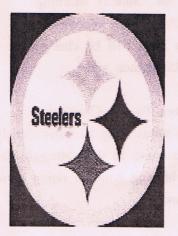
Do you have an idea for a story, a poem, a testimony or a suggestion? We want to hear from you! Send an email to camimcd@msn.com, see me at

church, or give me a call at (724) 845-6773. Then watch for your contribution in an upcoming issue of the Trib. Thanks! Sis. Cami

### RIVERS OF LIFE IS "TAKING IT TO... MYSPACE!"

Visit our MySpace page & become our friend!!!

www.myspace.com/roloutreach





TAMPA BAY 02.01.09

WE DID IT
AGAIN!!!!