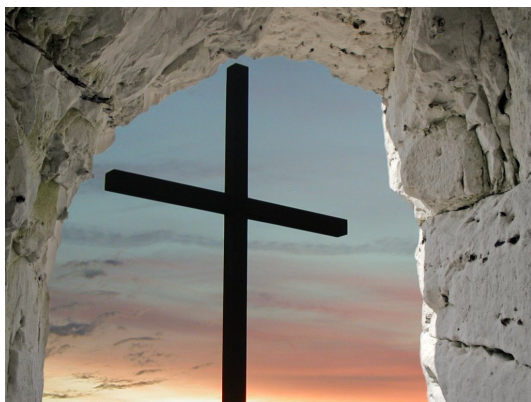




April 2009

Volume 4 Issue 4



I also pray that you will understand the incredible greatness of God's power for us who believe him. This is the same mighty power that raised Christ from the dead. Ephesians 1:19-20

Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed!

Christians confess that Christ is risen, not only in the hearts of the faithful, and not merely as some nice religious image, but truly and physically. On Easter morning the tomb of Jesus was empty. The power of death was broken, both for him and for us, by his resurrection.

We can only begin to understand the divine power that raised Jesus from the dead. The more we think of it, the more we are astounded.

Ephesians adds to our astonishment. The "mighty power that raised Christ from the dead" is in fact "God's power for us who believe him" (vv. 19-20). The same power that shattered the prison of death sets us free from all that binds us. The very Spirit of God lives in us to empower us for the ministry of the kingdom of God. Resurrection power is for us, in us, and at work through us.

Thus we live as Easter Christians, not simply with gratitude for our salvation, and not merely with hope for the future. We live in the power as God's ministers, filled with his power, extending his kingdom into every facet of our lives. We are Easter people at home and at church, at work and at play.

Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed!.... *Mark D Roberts*

Another Urbana Move
The Thursday night Urbana table helped a family member move on March 21. This was the seventh move for the group in the last year.



Schedule of Upcoming Events

April 18	8:00-12:45	1/2 Marriage Seminar
April 25	9:00-11:00	Big Sweep Frederick
May 2	12:00-2:00	Paintball Ft Detrick
May 9	7:20-9:20	Quarterly Breakfast MVC
May 12	7:40	Choir Practice
May 16	9:00-5:00	Baltimore Block Party
May 19	7:40	Choir Practice
May 26	7:40	Choir Practice
May 31	4:30-8:00	Dinner @Fred Res Mission
May 31—Jun 5		Mission Trip Gary, WV
Jun 2	7:40	Choir Practice
Jun 4	8:00-12:30	Waterboyz Golf Tourney
Jun 4	7:40	Choir Dress Rehearsal
Jun 7	8:00	Choir Sings @ Redeemer

"In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." **Matthew 5:16**

STORY #1: This past weekend Dave Berg, the Monday night @ McDonald's in Frederick table leader, received an email from Ray Barnes asking if he and a couple of his friends could come to the 10MEN table to see what it was all about. Milt Tipperman & Jack Wheeler had told him about the Waterboyz and he thought it was something he might want to check out. Of course Dave responded that it would be great if they came. One of the 10MEN table values is that we always have room for another man. If the table grows to more than 10 men on a consistent basis it will simply divide and grow. I got there a few minutes early and two guys I didn't know were already at our table enjoying McDonald's fine cuisine. I thought they were Ray and one of his friends and introduced myself and had a pleasant but short conversation with them. After a few minutes they glanced at their watches and said they needed to be leaving to get to their AA meeting. It was then I realized they weren't the new guys and explained to them my misunderstanding. I told them they had stumbled onto a Waterboyz for Jesus meeting and invited them to come back and give



it a try. Aaron, one of the guys said just the day before his wife had been reading an online article about the Waterboyz for Jesus doing an extreme home makeover. She told him he needed to check it out. He went on to say that he didn't believe in coincidences and he knew that God had orchestrated this meeting. **VERY COOL!!!**

STORY #2:

Last July 4th Bryan Anastase got pulled over for driving down a one way street the wrong way. When the police tested him he blew a .24 and was promptly arrested and booked with a DUI. Bryan remembers this event as a 'severe mercy' because shortly after his arrest he started down a path of sobriety and recovery. He went to the hospital for a 5-7 day detox, then on to a 30 day program in Florida, a 30 day program in Maryland, and finally settled in the Olsen house in Frederick which is a 6 month recovery house. He attends several AA meetings a week and at least 2 Waterboyz tables. Just a few weeks ago he started a 10MEN table at Tom Phillips home since Tom is too sick with his inoperable cancer to travel much. Bryan is planning to be baptized soon and has experienced a radical life-changing conversion. Which brings us to last Friday..... Bryan had previously been sentenced to 4 months in jail but on his appeal (which almost NEVER changes anything!) he had one last chance. Twelve men, his accountability team showed up at the court house. Brian Dillman, a seventeen year veteran of the Montgomery county police force spoke about the change he has seen in Bryan over the last 8 months. I spoke about how if the sentencing were about punishment then Bryan definitely needed to go to jail. But if it was about providing him with a reality check and an opportunity to assess and change his life direction that had already happened. I talked about how most of the men who came into the court room that day expressed remorse for their actions, a few even pointed to some counseling and programs they had attended, but NONE had come into the court room and had a new vision for their lives, a new direction. Bryan Anastase had that vision, he had talked to the judge about mentoring men, one who was in the room, about helping other addicts get into the hospital and onto the path to recovery, and his determination to give back to the community rather than be a burden on the community. I had his accountability team stand and then closed by mentioning that Bryan had given over a 100 hours of time at a recent EXTREME makeover. As I was saying this, the Judge interrupted me and said he had read about it and thought it was a good thing. He then talked about each of us are members of the same body and if the members are functioning well the body is healthy. He said that clearly Bryan was part of a healthy body and since he had such a strong recovery program in place he was suspending all his jail time, and that Bryan was free to go. He asked Bryan to come back every 30 days to tell him how his recovery was going, which just gives Bryan more opportunities to tell him about what he is up to with the Waterboyz.



So how does this verse – Matthew 5:16 square with Matthew 6:3,4? (But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.)

Here is my 'take'..... Who is getting the glory? In the first verse God is saying we need to let a lost and dying world see our good deeds so HE gets the glory. In the second verse he is saying don't steal the glory. Each of us are SO prone to getting prideful – "Hey look at ME!!!!" Let's make sure that every time something like these two stories happen we point to Jesus and say – "HEY LOOK AT HIM!!!!!"