

## A Word from our Pastor...

Cold winter greetings in Jesus Name!

As I sit on the couch with my laptop writing this letter the sun is shining through the living room windows. It's 7:30 am and its above freezing for the first morning in what seems like weeks. I'm not sure what you think, but it has been a long winter so far for us. The constant clearing of our driveway and the cancellation of some services has hindered our momentum. But I have faith that spring is going to show up, and when it does we are expecting a new season of unparalleled growth and maturity.

We have been meeting on Tuesday evenings with many who have expressed a personal desire to be more actively involved in mentoring and ministering to others in a greater way. God has been helping us share our burden to touch our congregation and community in a far greater way than we have ever before. Sometime in March we will be launching a new ministry in the church that is going to bless everyone who participates.

2013 was a year of change for us. We have been blessed with the introduction of many new families into our congregation and our hearts were deeply saddened by those precious ones that have gone to be with the Lord. **John 12:24 (KJV)** *Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.*

God saw fit to call home some powerful saints last year, but I have the confidence in Him to know that much fruit is on its way. We have been preparing ourselves for the harvest. We ask that you and your

family join us in making a difference within the lives of our own congregation and into the community around us. People are hurting and filled with uncertainty. We want to be a light of strength and stability to those who have lost their way.

If you haven't come to a Tuesday leadership training meeting yet, I invite you to come. We meet on Tuesdays at 6pm; we're done by 7:30pm. From this meeting, you will be challenged and equipped to better serve one another and help us to reap a harvest of souls for the Kingdom of God.

To each department and all who volunteer in some way thank you for your commitment to the church. Because of you people are fed natural food and spiritual food. Because of the faithful prayers and giving of the members of Open Door Apostolic thousands of lives have been and are being touched by the Gospel of Jesus Christ in many countries around the world. It is our desire to better serve you. We also want to make sure that you have the tools and the training that you need to help others.

To my lovely wife and first lady of the church, I appreciate her support and faithfulness to me and you. She works tirelessly behind the scenes for you and I and I want her to know that we appreciate her labor in the Lord. Remember, just a few more days and winter will be behind us. Let us lift each other up in prayer and encourage those who are going through storms and trials in their lives. If God be for us, who can be against us?

God Bless,  
Pastor Chris Sowards

FEBRUARY 2014

### Upcoming Events

Every Tuesday evening at 7 pm  
*Leadership training class with Pastor Sowards*

**February 1**  
SWAT Fundraiser—  
Making peanut butter hearts at the church @ 9am

**February 8**  
SWAT Fundraiser—  
Making peanut butter hearts at the church @ 9am.

**February 13th-14th**  
CCYC Youth Convention,  
Charleston, WV Civic Center

### Service Times:

Sunday 10am & 6pm  
Wednesday 7:30 pm

### Contact Us:

2630 Kanawha Blvd. E.  
Charleston, WV 25311

**(304) 346-9175**

[opendoorapostolic.org](http://opendoorapostolic.org)

The “Feed My Sheep” Program has been active for almost two years now and has never been stronger. Join us Sunday morning before service and after service on Sunday evening and Wednesday evening for food and fellowship.

*John 21:17 “...Feed my sheep”*

## Feed His Sheep February Menu

*Serve or be served*

SUNDAY MORNING 8:30 – 9:30 AM	SUNDAY NIGHT AFTER SERVICE	WEDNESDAY NIGHT AFTER SERVICE
<b>2</b> Biscuit Sandwich	<b>2</b> Pepperoni Rolls	<b>5</b> Corn Dogs
<b>9</b> Baked French Toast	<b>9</b> Soup and Grilled Cheese	<b>12</b> Spaghetti
<b>16</b> Cereal and Muffins	<b>16</b> Hot Dogs	<b>19</b> Chili
<b>23</b> Breakfast Burritos	<b>23</b> Frito Pies	<b>26</b> Pizza
<b>BREAKFAST SNACK CAPTAIN David &amp; Crystal Dean</b>	<b>SUNDAY NIGHT SNACK CAPTAIN Dorcas Eskew</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY NIGHT SNACK CAPTAIN Jen Green</b>

*Ministries continued*

# S.W.A.T. Youth Group

*Spiritual Warfare Assault Team*

Greetings from the SWAT youth department,

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations. (Psalms 100:4, 5 KJV)

When we enter into His courts with praise He will enter our circumstances with power and victory. We have seen another month come and go and over this past month many great things have taken place as we have watched our youth enter into His courts with praise. His power has come and met us at the place of our needs. When we praise our Creator strongholds and walls must come down.

Our first Wednesday night class of the year we put together a small list of goals for 2014. We are expecting many great things for 2014 including spiritual growth as well as physical growth as we focus on serving and loving one another and God. We are planning some fun filled events and will be participating in state and national youth functions.

Thank you for continuing to provide positive influence and encouragement throughout this year as we look forward to fulfilling Gods will and purpose in our lives.

Love and Prayers,  
Bro. G and Sis. Bonnie

Upcoming Events:

February 1st-Fundraiser-Making peanut butter hearts at the church @ 9am. All are welcome to participate.

February 8th- Fundraiser-Making peanut butter hearts at the church @ 9am. All are welcome to participate.

February 13th-14th- CCYC- Youth Convention, Charleston, WV Civic Center

## S.W.A.T Spot



### Grace McClure

Age/Birthday: 13 / April 25, 2000

School: Elkview Middle School

Favorite Subject: WV Studies

Hobbies: Baking

Favorite Food: Italian

Place I would like to visit: London, England

Desired Occupation: Teacher

If I could meet a famous person I would like to meet: Jennifer Lawrence

Person I admire: Kelly Sowards

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[www.opendoorapostolic.org](http://www.opendoorapostolic.org)

Jacob Gilbert is currently at the Mountaineer Challenge Academy. If you would like to write to him, his address is as follows:

Cadet Jacob Gilbert  
1001 Army Road, Camp Dawson  
PO Box 586  
Kingwood, WV 26537

*If you have something you'd like to share in the Open Door Newsletter, please see Sis. Jessie or email [jhale2@wvstateu.edu](mailto:jhale2@wvstateu.edu).*