
The Crossroads

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October 2007

IF I WERE THE DEVIL

by Paul Harvey



If I were the Devil...

I would gain control of the most powerful nation in the world.

I would delude their minds into thinking that they had come from man's effort, instead of God's blessings.

I would promote an attitude of loving things and using people, instead of the other way around.

I would dupe entire states into relying on gambling for their state revenue.

I would convince people that character is not an issue when it comes to leadership.

I would make it legal to take the life of unborn babies.

I would make it socially acceptable to take one's own life, and invent machines to make it convenient.

I would cheapen human life as much as possible so that the life of animals are valued more than human beings.

I would take God out of the schools, where even the mention of His name was grounds for a law suit.

I would come up with drugs that sedate the mind and target the young, and I would get sports heroes to advertise them.

I would get control of the media, so that every night I could pollute the mind of every family member for my agenda.

I would attack the family, the backbone of any nation.

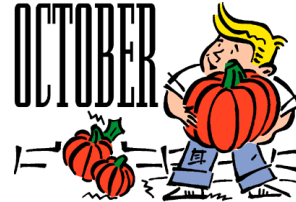
I would compel people to express their most depraved fantasies on canvas and movie screens, and I would call it art.

I would convince the people that right and wrong are determined by a few who call themselves authorities and refer to their agenda as politically correct.

I would persuade people that the church is irrelevant and out of date, and the Bible is for the naïve.

I would dull the minds of Christians, and make them believe that prayer is not important, and that faithfulness and obedience are optional.

I guess I would leave things pretty much the way they are.



BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Ed Huie
- 3 Ethel Lynn Keeton
- 11 Roy Schmelz
- 16 Jim Phillips
- 17 Feroze Yusufji
- 18 Jenni Ashmore
- 18 Beth Moore
- 21 Bert Tatzel
- 21 Jessalyn Murphy
- 21 Kaylee Lloyd
- 25 Luella Conine
- 25 Lynn Vandiver
- 31 Karen Kelly-Nelson



ANNIVERSARIES

- 4 Hal & Kim Cline
- 6 Ed & Pegge Murphy
- 12 Tom & Joan Murphy
- 14 Jay & Katheryne Trammell
- 21 Feroze & Parveen Yusufji



USHERS FOR OCTOBER

Fred Rohrbach
Feroze Yusufji
Paul Lyle
Mallory Banke



MESSAGES TO OUR MEMBERS

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Dear Philadelphia Presbyterian Church,

The summer is officially over for us now, and we would like to take this time to thank you for your support by sending 3 campers this summer. Thanks so much for your continued support. We look forward to seeing you soon. Continue to check our website for upcoming events: www.calvincenter.org. Thanks again!! In Christ, *Calvin Center Staff*

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I just got back from my Mother's (in Ohio) last night, having been there for 8 days. Mother is doing *much, much* better. The strong medicine she was on for her esophageal problems had lots of bad side effects: now that she is *off* that medication, she is almost back to her "old self." My sister Gail is also doing *some* better, at least as well as she can be doing, *considering* her severe lung problems. I am thankful for both Mother's and Gail's progress. And I am glad to be back home. *Judy Baird*

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Give thanks and praise to God for the release of 12 of the 19 Korean hostages held by the Taliban for more than five weeks. The remaining hostages are expected to be released soon. Pray for continued health and safety for all these dedicated Korean Christians. *The Presidential Prayer Team*

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Hannah Joy Daniel, the 10-month-old daughter of pastors Thomas & Beth Daniel, has been given the "all clear" by both a neurologist and a cardiologist. "...they don't even need to see her again! She still is delayed in some key areas...but we hope and trust that she will blossom in these areas as she has blossomed in others...many, many thanks for the call to prayer for Hannah Joy." *Rev. Beth Daniel* (as announced in *Pastoral Team Report*)

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Philadelphia Presbyterian Church,

Please accept this donation from the Frankie Lyle Chapter No. 2074 for the use of your church and reception hall. We certainly appreciated your willingness to help us out for the past 2 years. Kindest regards, *Linda Robinson, Treasurer*

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We rejoice over the release in Afghanistan of the remaining hostages of the Sam-mool (Spring Water) Presbyterian Church of Bundang, Korea. 22 members of that church were kidnapped by the Taliban. Two of their leaders were killed. *Joe Sandifer, Coordinator, Pastoral Team Report*

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Hi to all!

We think of y'all often and wish we could visit more often! Love, *Pegge & Ed Murphy*

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I can't tell you how much I appreciate you thinking of me and raising my name in prayer. Prayers have enormous power. They're good medicine and they certainly have lifted my spirits. I feel as if I have been borne on the shoulders of thousands of friends, all of whom have made the ride easier than I ever could have imagined.

We're blessed to live in a land where people just want an excuse to do something good for someone else. Thanks for taking advantage of that opportunity with me. Please encourage others to do it closer to home for other friends in need. Kind words, notes, e-mails and small gestures have a way of lightening the load, while making our own lives richer and more rewarding.

Again, thanks for the incredible gift of caring. God bless, *Tony Snow* [a note to *The Presidential Prayer Team* from the former White House Press Secretary, who is recovering from cancer]

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My friend *Barbara Wetherington* calls her business "Angel Threads" because she crochets angels to adorn everything she sells. I recently learned Barbara has a disease that caused her tendons to separate from her spine, requiring surgery to insert rods for support. She has already gone through rehab and learned to walk again. Here, in her own words, is the info about her current situation:

"I was waiting until after Power's [craft show in Newnan on Labor Day weekend] to start the anti-viral

injections into my spinal cord. I won't be doing any crafts for several months if the first one is any indication of how it's going to go. Suffice it to say that there is much screaming and crying involved. The last option is chemo. I love the joy my angel things bring to people, but I don't believe I have any options. I believe my personal angels must be on sabbatical right now. I hope they come home soon."

Please pray for Barbara, for the return of her personal angels and for the return of her health so she can continue to create angels for others. *Janice B. Lockhart*



First, I want to thank the congregation for all the cards and prayers sent my way when my sister, *Betsy Jones*, died. This is late, but I wanted you all to know how very much I appreciate all of you!

Bill Jones, Betsy's widower, is adjusting, even driving, with his Alzheimer's under control.

My brother, *Buddy Stanton*, recently announced that he does not have lung cancer!

And since September 10, I have been recovering from an injury at work that resulted in a torn right leg muscle.

Thank you, again, for your care and concern! Love, *Cathy Morris*



We certainly thank all the people that sent us anniversary cards. It was a great anniversary! Of course, we were in South Carolina for an Army reunion of the 24th Division, but it was fun.

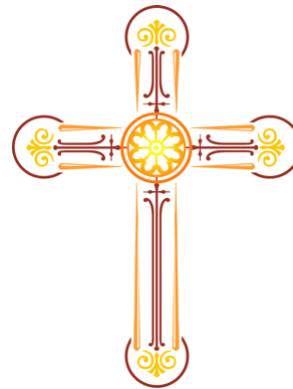
A special thanks goes to my Secret Pal. How did you know I loved baskets? I didn't put it on my list. But we got the most wonderful basket of fruit with a "Happy Anniversary" balloon! *James & Jean Ray*



Thank you all for the cards, expressions of concern and prayers during our tragedy. Please continue to pray for us. Love, *James, Linda and Will*



- ▶ **Busy Bees** will begin meeting at 10:30am, starting in October.
- ▶ **Session** will meet on Sunday, October 21 since the pastor is on vacation October 14-18.



We extend our love and deepest Christian sympathy to Linda Harvey Shepherd at the death of her daughter, Michelle Porter; to Pat Randolph at the death of her friend, Bryan Wilmoth; to Demester Dunaway at the death of his friend, Willie Bush; to Jackie Hill at the death of her sister-in-law,

Betty Duffy; to Debbie Bray at the death of her mother, Beverly S. Bray; and to Heather Hardy, Jennifer Rohrbach's friend, at the death of her infant son, Aiden.

IN THE NEWS – *Guy Staats* had a political cartoon featured in the *Atlanta Journal/Constitution*, and it's now posted on our bulletin board. Guy's drawing was part of a contest that culminated with votes cast at ajc.com to determine the public's favorite illustration. Of course, we already think Guy is a winner, so be sure and give him a well-deserved "Congratulations!"

FREE CONCERT – U.S. Air Force Reserve Concert Band. When? *Sunday, October 7* at 3:00pm. Where? Clayton County Schools Performing Arts Center (2530 Mt. Zion Parkway, Jonesboro). You can pick up your free ticket there. *But hurry, tickets are limited!!!*

INTERESTED IN RESUMING MIDDAY, MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY? If so, please call the church office at 404-366-1851 or e-mail secyppc@bellsouth.net.

NEW ARRIVAL – Ed & Pegge Murphy are the proud great-grandparents of Dakota Michael Cottington! Dakota was born September 16. He weighed 8 pounds, and he was 21 inches long. Dakota's parents are Michael & Deven (Applegate) Cottington, and his grandmother is Sheryl Murphy. Congratulations to the Murphy and Cottington families!

ELDER TRAINING – 1:00pm on Sunday, October 28 and 9:00am on Sunday, November 4.



**WORLDWIDE
MISSIONS**

Hi dear sponsors from Philadelphia Presbyterian Church,

How are you all doing there? This is your sponsored child Fernanda Ferreira Garcia Vaz who is writing. I want to tell you that my family and I are doing very well, thank God.

Sponsors, now I am going to tell you a little about me. I am doing very well in school, thank God. On July 13, we will start our school vacation and our classes will start again on August 2.

Sponsors, on my vacation, I will go to my uncle, my mother's brother's house in the country.

Sponsors, I would like to know a little about you and I would also like to know if each one of you has children. Write to me and tell me about you and if it is possible, send me pictures.

Sponsors, thank you very much for the 10 dollar birthday gift you sent me that in Brazil's currency corresponds to 19.03 reais. With this wonderful gift I bought a beautiful pair of sandals.

Sponsors, I close this letter and until next letter. Your sponsored child, *Fernanda Ferreira Garcia Vaz*

Kisses and until next time, God willing. I love you all. Jesus loves you all.

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Dear Friends:

In humility and thankfulness we acknowledge your recent gift of \$200.00. We honor you for what your hands have done in sending financial support to assist those who have outlived their financial resources and who depend upon Presbyterian Homes to supply quality care.

You are a critical part of the interwoven fabric of our ministry. It is a ministry that this year will need over \$2.75 million to bridge the funding gap between what Medicaid provides and the cost of our superior care. Your gift links you directly to making possible that loving care. Your help allows us to continue to keep a promise first made when this ministry was founded in 1949 and never broken – that no one will leave Presbyterian Homes of Georgia because they have outlived their financial means.

You have joined us in the mission field and we are grateful. May God Bless You, *Susan E. Stone*, Director of Development

Dear friends,

How was your summer? Fortunately, even though we were real busy, God sent some help. In July, our friend Doug set up a book table in the heart of our Bukharan neighborhood. Within hours, visitors took home 15 *The Jesus Film* videos, mostly in Russian, and about 50 Russian, Hebrew and English books. We were delighted to give away several films in a language called "Tajik," also known as "Bukharan." Tajik is similar to Persian and is the primary language spoken by many of the older Jewish people in Queens. Exciting! To be honest, we worried that so few people have responded lately to *The Jesus Film* flyers under apartment doors. This new strategy places films right in people's hands. The work does not go unnoticed. A few weeks ago in the Bakharan newspaper, a local rabbi published an article, "Why I Am Not A Christian." Thank God that criticism and publicity often aid the Messiah's cause.

Jewish people are all about relationships. Deep, committed friendships draw hearts to the Messiah. Remember praying for Mr. B from English classes? The Gospel offended him. He hardly talked to us for two years! We delivered chocolates to his family for Jewish New Year and kept trying to be nice, even though Mr. B was sometimes aloof and critical. Perseverance paid off! In May, Mr. B and two other former English students attended our Messianic Camp Simcha in Pennsylvania. The trip drained us emotionally but met a need in their lives. In late July, Mr. B and his sister invited us for dinner. They asked many questions. As we were leaving, Mr. B said, "What do I have to do to receive eternal life?" Then he said, "I believe!"

Thank you so much for your friendship. We don't feel alone, but part of a team. Can you pray for us today? In August, Randall started a Jewish studies Master's Degree program offered jointly by Talbot School of Theology and Chosen People Ministries. Accordingly, he reduced his salaried office days from three to two a week. With the additional ministry expenses, we need to increase our income by \$1,000 per month.

Thank you once again, *Randall & Luda Ford*

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*Following Jesus is always right –
but seldom easy.*

On *Sunday, October 7*, churches around the world will celebrate their oneness in Christ by gathering at the Table of the Lord. Prior to that service, please spend time in prayer and meditation preparing your heart, soul and mind to receive this sacrament instituted by our Savior.



A **Fall Work Day for the Memory Garden** has been scheduled for *Saturday, October 13* from 8:00am till noon. We welcome committee members as well as any other persons who would like to lend a hand. *Henry Brock*



PW Honorary Life Membership Sunday will be celebrated *October 14*. During the worship service, this year's PW Honorary Life Membership recipient will be presented the pin especially designed for this award. Following the service, there will be a covered-dish luncheon in her honor. Who will this year's recipient be? You'll just have to come and see!

PW Blessing Boxes represent a special offering by circle members to keep us mindful of and thankful for our many blessings. Each coin represents a "thanks" to God for whenever something good happens to us or for when some unexpected blessing comes our way. We pour out our Blessings Boxes in February and October to represent the blessings that have been poured out to us.

Well, the time has arrived. So, circle members, be sure and bring your Blessing Box offering to your circle meeting this month.

As the familiar hymn declares:

***Count your many blessings – name them one by one,
and it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.***

ATTENTION PPC! Calling all members and attendees!

We need your help. We are in the midst of planning our Fall Festival, and we need YOU in order for this event to be a success. The festival will be *Saturday, October 27* from 5-7pm.



We need donations of the items listed below, and most importantly, we need volunteers! We need PEOPLE to help set up and clean up. We need PEOPLE to help run games. We need PEOPLE to interact with visitors and invite them to our church. We need CARS to be parked and decorated for our 3rd annual Trunk-or-Treat, which will start at exactly 7pm that evening.

If you are willing to help us out with any of the above or if you want to offer your own special talents, please let us know immediately! You can call Mallory Banke at 404-425-2857 or Pam Langley at 770-968-0529.

Items needed:

PEOPLE
hot dogs
hot dog buns
chips
drinks
hot chocolate
jack-o-lanterns
bales of hay
decorations



Sue Westfall, an Associate Executive Presbyter who heads up the Committee on Ministry, will be our special guest on *Sunday, October 21*. She will preach on *The Life Cycle of the Church*. Following our covered-dish luncheon, she will speak and answer questions about where we as a church are in that life cycle and what we can do to avoid what would be the ultimate end of the cycle – death of the church.

WANT A SECOND CHANCE...?

To learn Spanish, that is. Or maybe it's your first opportunity. In any case, on *Monday, October 15* at 6:45pm, the church will once again be sponsoring Beginner Spanish. Both new students and returning students are welcome!



HEARING WITH YOUR EYES! *Visual Revelations of Parables*

This exhibition, as the title indicates, is based on the parables of Christ. The work is by Atlanta artist Samuel O. Williams and is being shown *now through December 13* in the Harrington Center at Columbia Seminary. The art exhibit includes paintings and mixed media. See the bulletin board for illustrations of "The Good Shepherd" and "The Good Samaritan." For additional information, go online to http://www.ctsnet.edu/news/news_releases/Samuel_Williams_Exhibit.asp or call 404-687-4587.



Chaplain (Maj.) Patrick Bailey (U.S. Army) and the 12 chaplains and chaplain assistants who are part of his team and who are now in Iraq have been on the "Continuing Prayer List" for the *Pastoral Team Report* for some time now. Recently, an e-mail pastoral visit was made to Chaplain Bailey and this reply was received:

"Thank you for your message and prayers. We are in our twelfth month of deployment in Iraq. We hope to redeploy in December back to Ft. Richardson, Alaska. It has been a tough deployment for us considering all the uncertainty here about our mission and progress. Our brigade has suffered a high casualty rate with over sixty of our soldiers killed and another eighty seriously wounded. On the other hand, it has been my privilege to serve with a great group of chaplains and chaplain assistants who are providing considerable care and support to our soldiers...Please pray for peace in Iraq."

GOOD NEWS TO SHARE

*Keep up those prayers!
They really do make a difference.*

- It was a double treat to have *Virginia Billington* and *Doris Ellis* worshiping with us again – Virginia (and son Robert) from her new home in Marietta, and Doris out of the hospital.
- Following his prostate cancer surgery and good results on his most recent PSA tests, *Eugene Dabbs* (a friend of Spencer Frye & Pat Randolph) has returned to work.
- Although treatments continue for his lung problems, *Ed Downey* (husband of Nancy Phillips' cousin) is doing well enough after his heart surgery to be removed from the prayer list.
- *Gail Downing* still has pulmonary fibrosis, but she is currently stabilized.
- In spite of her esophagitis, gastritis, weight loss and carditis, *Mary Alice Hartenfeld* (Judy Baird's mother) is doing so much better that she can be taken off the prayer list.
- *Donna Randolph* (Pat Randolph's daughter-in-law) has enough sight now to return to work.
- *Megan Beck* was well enough recently to attend several days of school. But even when unable to attend, Megan has kept her grades up, making all A's on her progress report.
- *Kenneth Brown*, Joyce Smith's brother-in-law, has already returned to work following aortic aneurysm surgery.
- In spite of the fact that her last numbers were *not* good, doctors say *Montine Tomasello's* cancer is *not* worse. When asked how that was possible, the doctor replied, "*We don't have answers for everything, and prayer works miracles!*"

*What a Friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!*

*O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer!*

– Joseph M. Scriven

TO BE REMEMBERED IN PRAYER AND WITH CARDS

Please notify us concerning updates. Inquiring minds – and prayerful hearts – want to know!

(Based on September bulletins. **New info in bold.**)

Linda Harvey Shepherd and the family of Michelle Porter

Pat Randolph and the family of Bryan Wilmoth

Demester Dunaway and the family of Willie Bush

Jackie Hill and the family of Betty Duffy

Debbie Bray and the family of Beverly S. Bray

Heather Hardy, Jennifer Rohrbach's friend, at the death of her infant son, Aiden

Lee Allen (nodule on prostate; biopsy to come; out of work & Beth lost her secondary job)

Amy Atkinson (friend of the Fries - cancer)

Sophia Bannis (co-worker of Angela Lyle - surgery for breast cancer)

Melanie Barnes (wife of Keith at Berean - multiple sclerosis)

Megan Beck (Nell Cates' granddaughter - colitis; **infusions continue**)

Jamie Brady (Joyce Smith's niece - gamma knife radiation on brain tumor; no ill effects so far)

Tye Bryant (severe back pain; was hospitalized, sent home & returned to ER; epidural had adverse effects; regaining appetite & strength)

Tammy Burroughs (Jennifer Rohrbach's principal - stage 2 cancer of breast/lymph nodes)

Randy Cary (friend of the Fries - deployed to Iraq)

Douglas Chapman (Serena Staats' father - awaiting another bone marrow transplant)

Beryl Chown (friend of Jim & Nancy Phillips - ovarian cancer; chemo)

Eddie & Mellissa Crownover (friends of the Fries - Eddie is a Marine Cobra pilot in Iraq)

Ami Davis (Bob & Becky Huie's granddaughter - precancerous uterine cells; **continuing hormone treatments**)

Gail Downing (Judy Baird's sister - pulmonary fibrosis; **currently stabilized**)

Doris Ellis (was hospitalized; difficulty breathing; heart cath showed artery 80% blocked; now on oxygen & heart medication)

Kay Embrey (requested by Karen Kelly-Nelson - surgery for renal cancer)

Spencer Frye (**cardiologist postponed knee surgery, causing elbow & foot problems; severe acid reflux**)

Mary Lou Fuller (friend of the Dunaways - cancer in remission; pain & mobility problems)

Debbie Gurley (Frances Youngblood's daughter-in-law's sister - breast cancer)

Ed Henry (Beth Moore's father - Alzheimer's has gotten much worse)

Pat Henry (Beth Moore's mother - now on dialysis; heart condition worse; mini strokes)

Elizabeth Hollandsworth (friend of Judy Baird - inoperable liver cancer)

Cindy Hopkins (Pam Langley's close friend - incurable lung cancer, but now able to work)

Mary Jordan (knee replacement surgery; rehab; Laurel Park, Room 109B, 1050 Hospital Drive, Stockbridge, GA 30281)

Larry Kidd (plays golf with Ray Morgan - cancer in pancreas & lymph nodes; in experimental drug program)

Chuck Kovac (26-year-old son of Kathy Banke's friend - being tested for multiple sclerosis)

Billy Mann (Nell Cates' brother - surgery on spine 9/24)

Annelle Maxwell (surgery for breast cancer; on preventative medicine now)

Cathy Morris (recovering from a torn right leg muscle; back to doctor 09/27)

Joan Murphy (recovering from knee replacement surgery)

Olivia Murphy (stomach cancer; Southwest Christian Care, Room 2B, 7225 Lester Road, Union City, GA 30291)

Regina Page (friend of Dot Dunn - awaiting a liver transplant)

Larry Patrick (Montine Tomasello's nephew - surgery for bleeding on both sides of brain)

Lucius Power (the Fries' friend with 2 little boys - inoperable brain cancer)

Nevaeh Robinson (Christine Jefferson's granddaughter - requires a feeding tube)

Kim Seibert (Mary Jordan's 45-year-old niece with 2 young sons - brain/lung/bone cancer)

Linda Smith (Joyce Smith's sister - incurable small cell cancer; no change in CT scan)

Buddy Stanton Jr. (Cathy Morris' nephew - serving our country in Afghanistan)

Sonny Strohm (Lockharts' friend - more MRIs & CT scans to come; **mother just died of cancer; sister with liver/kidney cancer was too ill to attend funeral**)

Rocky Thompson (Doris Ellis' grandson - airlifted for emergency surgery due to completely blocked heart artery, plus blood clot in lung)

Arlene Tolleson (friend of Nella Ree Dunn - colon cancer)

Jerry Tomasello (pulmonary fibrosis progressively worse; confined to a wheelchair)

Montine Tomasello (breast cancer attached to bone; **last numbers not good but cancer not worse**)

Harold Westbrook (liver cancer; chemo-embolization helping; P.O. Box 1324, Villa Rica, GA 30180)

Barbara Wetherington (Janice Lockhart's friend - anti-viral injections into spinal cord)

Mollie Whitehead (Linda Harvey Shepherd's niece - **home from rehab; very upbeat**)

L.M. York (friend of the Morgans & Ralph Kelly - lymphoma; radiation)

Our Homebound:

Edith Virginia Billington (continuing physical & occupational therapy; The Heritage, Room 229, 3039 Sandy Plains Road, Marietta, GA 30066; Phone: 770-321-1499)

Joan Cushing (6184 San Juan Street, Forest Park, GA 30297)

Martin Ebbesen (Jonesboro Assisted Living, Room 116, 2620 Hwy. 138 SE, Jonesboro, GA 30236)

Ed Huie (**6114 Huie Drive, P.O. Box 3, Morrow, GA 30260; Phone: 770-961-6092**)

Belle Lawrence (1210 Lochshyre Way, Lawrenceville, GA 30043; Phone: 678-376-9807)

JoAnn Tatzel (Lafayette Nursing Home, Room 404, 110 Brandywine Blvd., Fayetteville, GA 30214)

Grover Tharp (275 N. Victoria Court, Ellenwood, GA 30294; Phone: 770-981-5732)