



# Spring - Starting Over

Cruising the flat landscape of farmland lying between Lodi and Stockton, I head for a counseling appointment at Bear Creek Church.

hopping through flower beds around our church grounds. **SPRING IS HERE! Spring – new life, fresh beginnings - what seemed hopeless and barren has come surging back stronger and more beautiful than ever!**

fear of the future, God is so full of love and compassion! His love is never-ending.

**God has given us the gift of spring as a reminder of the seasons of life.** After enduring the heat of many trials, we experience the abundance of life's harvest. After surviving the harsh struggles of winter, we have the hope of a new and fresh beginning.

You may have known Him for a long time, but have become bogged down in a winter of despair. Life can be overwhelming. Anger turns to depression, doubt and anxiety turn to fear, disappointment turns to grief, and the loss of love turns to despair. Perhaps you need a listening ear and words of encouragement to sort out your options for moving into spring. I am available at the number below.

Have you ever longed for a new beginning, a fresh start? I have! Praise God for His mercy and grace! When we admit our need of a Savior, choose to believe that Jesus Christ gave his life for us, and make a commitment to live for Him, we become part of the Family of God. Through Jesus we have ongoing access to the grace of God! Whether you are looking for release from the anguish of grief or shame, the guilt of making the wrong choice, or

I love ministering to the family of God at Bear Creek Church! I am so grateful for how the Lord has taken the broken pieces of my own life, renewed my life through Him, and made me His servant. He equips each of us to bless and comfort others in the way He has blessed and comforted us. **Enjoy a splendid spring! Faye Rodriguez, BCCC Life Choices Coach and Crisis Counselor, 209-712-1943**

COUNSELOR'S HEARTBEAT

A vast blue sky hangs over our valley like a giant canopy! Where I grew up in Southern California one seldom saw such a spacious sky! Gazing up between streets crowded with residential complexes and commercial structures, the view came in patches of blue. Sometimes the sky was scraps of lifeless beige tinged with industrial smog. Even in the lovely area of rolling hills where our family lived, vision was limited to partial skies filtering through the trees. It seems like just last week the winter sky was a stark contrast to the barren branches of trees and twisting vines. The sky appears softer now as it blankets vines lightly tinged with verdant green sprigs and trees covered with white-as-snow blossoms. After a spring rain, the air is filled with croaking frogs, singing birds, and little brown bunnies

**PG 13**

**Dinner & a Movie Night**

**TO SAVE A LIFE**

**Friday April 30, 2010**  
**@ 6:15 pm Cost is \$5.00**  
**Tickets on sale April 11th**

**Young at Heart**

**The Neighbor Game**

Friday April 16, 2010  
 6:00 pm in the Lobby  
 Newlywed (oldiewed) Game  
 Sign up on Sunday April 11. Cost is \$3.00.

Young at Heart is for those who are 50 years and better would like to fellowship with others. However, everyone is welcome!

Questions? Contact Shirley Kreitzer 369-2281 or Donna Siria 365-9661.