Highway Miracle

By Carin Bartlett

May 2 began like any other day for Glen Altermatt, associate ministerial director for the Carolina Conference. He was looking forward to the new day as he drove north on I-77 around 7 a.m. He was cruising around a comfortable 60 mph in the center lane when all of a sudden, the car behind him attempted to change lanes and struck the left rear of his Dodge pickup.

The impact spun Altermatt's truck, causing it to slide sideways and mount on the right side wheels. This almost caused the truck to flip over. Twice the truck hit the concrete median wall that divided the two lanes of traffic, setting off both air bags and spinning the truck to face south on the north-bound lane. With horror, Altermatt realized what was happening and cried with all his might: "Save me, Jesus!" Over and over, he shouted these words as his truck spun. Finally, it came to a rest.

Smoke and steam wafted ominously from under the hood of his battered truck. The passenger door was firmly wedged against the concrete wall, so Altermatt tried to open the battered driver door. The door was jammed, however, so Altermatt slammed his body against it, trying to force it loose. Finally, the door gave way enough for him to climb out. As he processed the dangerous events that had transpired in a matter of seconds, he thanked God for answering his simple, heart-felt prayer.