



The SHARinG Org

APRIL 2004

Dear Prayer Partners,

What a month! Wow, it has flown by and I think we were quite effective in our ability to serve those God has granted us the privilege of serving. From spreading joy through a little baby to offering hope to a grieving family to assisting with the needs of our prayer partners and beyond, the SHARinG Org has been busy this past month, and I am eager to fill you in on what we were able to do.

Early this past month we were invited to begin services for an adult foster care community. I am overjoyed as this new facility allows the SHARinG Org to serve another 20 people who did not have the ability to get to church! We are now serving about 60 people a week. 60 down and another couple million to go! We have also been invited to serve in yet another foster care facility, which would make three, with another 10 people in this home. **Please pray that I am able to schedule this third home and begin services for them in April.** The hold-up is my job situation. I am continuing to job-hunt, and when I start working, all services will have to be arranged around my work schedule.

As you all know, Megan and I were blessed with the birth of our daughter Sela Joy on February 15. I am not going to make this whole letter about my daughter (as a proud papa I could easily do so), but I do want to share with you how Sela has already become the star servant in this ministry. The week after Sela was born we were able to take her to the nursing home for services, and I had the extreme pleasure of introducing Sela to the residents by allowing them all to hold her. You should have seen the happiness and the pleasure the residents expressed. Residents and staff seemingly came from nowhere to hold her, and it was Megan's and my privilege to share her with all. It's now difficult to do a worship service, because nobody wants to listen to the likes of me when there is an infant to hold! ☺

This past month a friend of mine passed away, and the family asked me to take part in the funeral services. This I did as a friend and not as a minister or a representative of the SHARinG Org. I was also asked to do a funeral that same day for a woman that we served at the nursing home every week. It was a difficult day, however, I am thankful that I was able to share the love and grace of our Lord with family members who sought spiritual guidance.

As we get to better know the nursing home and adult foster care facility residents, our worship services are becoming more informal and interactive. I really enjoy the dialogue that sometimes takes place in the midst of my sermons, often in response to rhetorical questions that I ask. Twice I have had a resident respond to a question by making the very point I was intending to make at the conclusion of my sermon! It certainly keeps me on my toes and forces me to do some creative preaching on-the-spot.

Finally, this month we were able assist in the lives of a couple of our prayer partners. One of them is going on a missions trip to Erd, Hungary, between April 2 and April 14. Please pray for Bob as he will be with a team doing a baseball camp for children and building a baseball field as a way of reaching into that community with the love and grace of Jesus Christ. The other prayer partner had a family emergency out-of-state and did not have the immediate means for traveling there, so we were able to help in that matter. In both instances our help was limited, but we are grateful to have had the opportunity to help. **Thank you all for making it possible for us to do so.**

I hope and pray you are all doing well. As always we invite you to join us for a Sunday morning or Tuesday afternoon service. We'll even let you hold the baby and change a diaper!

God bless,
John Rock on behalf of The SHARinG Org Team

(John, Megan, Sela, Brad, & Melissa)