



# The SHARinG Org

SEPTEMBER 2004

Dear Prayer Partners,

On September 7, 2003, the SHARinG Org ministry team conducted our very first Sunday morning worship service for the residents at nursing care communities. From the very first service our team was welcomed with joy by the residents who were excited to be able to go to "church" again on Sunday mornings. We began with three care facilities and were invited into a fourth earlier this year. **We have conducted 149 worship services with an average total attendance of 70 residents who tell us repeatedly "thank you for bringing church to us."** All of this was undertaken by volunteers who donated over 1,000 hours of their time. In this first year we have had the great joy of becoming a regular part of the residents' lives just as they have become a very dear and regular part of ours. This first year we have learned a lot about our own assumptions in this ministry, as well as how to motivate the residents to come to church on Sunday mornings. The biggest motivator? *Just bring a baby with you!* We are so very thankful to our Lord for the work he has called us to, and we thank all of you who pray for us so faithfully.

This month we had the privilege of making a monetary contribution to Katie Kirkpatrick as she prepares for the **Ride for the Roses**. Katie is a 20-year-old woman from Rochester Hills, Michigan, who is battling cancer. The *Ride for the Roses* was founded by Lance Armstrong to raise money for Cancer research, and Katie will be going to Austin, Texas, to ride with Lance in October. Katie has her own web site ([www.katiekirkpatrick.com](http://www.katiekirkpatrick.com)) where you can learn about her battle with cancer and the journey she is on. She also has listed ways that you might pray for her, and she even has a "prayer beeper" that allows people to beep her to let her know that she has been remembered. Check out her web site to learn about her.

Last month all of you received an Armada Fun Map that we put together as a way of getting the word out about the SHARinG Org ministry. We distributed almost 2,000 of the maps during the Armada Fair, and they were very well received by the general public. We have received some enthusiastic responses: the other day I got a phone call from St. Clair Shores. The caller was very interested in the time for the demolition derby at the fair - *Ahhhh, it's great to be of service.* © The web-based version of the fun map appears to be a very nice addition to the printed version. You can **pray** that the businesses in our village will want to purchase links from the virtual map as a tool for directing Internet traffic to their business information. The map-links alone would generate the necessary revenue to support our current ministry.

I want to thank you all for your prayers and support of the SHARinG Org ministry this past year. Our combined efforts have been very effective in providing the gospel to some 70 people every week who would otherwise not be able to attend church on Sunday mornings. Every week I am thanked by people who express such a deeply genuine gratitude, and my heart is warmed as I experience the joy that they are expressing. **Thank you** for praying for our ministry team and the residents we serve.

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

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

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