

The Sharing Org

Loving God by Loving Others



APRIL 2005

Hello prayer partners!

It's currently 50 degrees, sunny, and it would appear that Spring is here – for the most part. It's been a long winter and we are all looking forward to the next few months before the snow returns. ☺ I know, “that’s not funny!” However, those of us in Michigan have to laugh or we’ll just have to move to Hawaii.

The Lenten and Easter season went very smoothly. Brad and I worked together and brought a good amount of liturgy to the worship services. Many of our folks who came from liturgical backgrounds commented how much they enjoyed these services, and even our people who are not used to the liturgy enjoyed themselves. Our motivation to continue this ministry is driven by the residents’ gratitude as we are there for them each and every week. They realize (and let us know) that if we were not there on Sunday mornings nobody else would be there to take our place. They certainly appreciate our ministry to them.

This past month was a tough one as a number of people who were with us from the beginning have passed away. While we are thankful that they are with their Lord, it does not make it any easier to lose the friends that have become so dear to us in the last year and a half. We received a note from one of the family members thanking us for providing their loved one with the weekly services – even if it wasn't the same flavor of Christianity as they were used to practicing. This family member had commented that their loved one had become quite ecumenical when the resident entered the care facility system some years ago and that they really enjoyed the Christian services and fellowship. I thank you for helping us to reach out to these residents and even touching their family members’ lives with the love of Jesus.

This month we were pleased to make a one-time donation to a new ministry called Grace Initiatives. We wanted to share what we could with them because we believe that they are doing a good work to help people who are on the fringes of society - just as our ministry does. Grace Initiatives provides a support system for girls 15 to 22 years of age who find themselves pregnant and without anyone to help them bring their children into the world. This is a ministry that goes a step beyond the service of a crisis pregnancy center by working to change and develop the lives of the young women who have chosen to keep their babies. Visit the Grace Initiatives web site at www.graceinitiatives.org to learn more about this work of God, and please remember to pray for them as they begin their new work.

Thank you all for praying for us each month. We are so pleased to be in this ministry, and you help us to keep going each month.

God bless,
John Rock on behalf of The Sharing Org Team
(John, Megan, Sela, Brad, & Melissa)

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