

The Sharing Org

Ministry to the Nursing Care Community

FEBRUARY 2009

Dear Prayer,

I spent this past month closing out the 2008 business year and completing all of the responsibilities that come with the legal tax entity of the Sharing Org. While I did so I was humbled as I recognized the generosity that I saw from you and all of our prayer partners. You gave of yourself when you prayed for me, my family, and the residents each month, you gave when we asked for help with the shoebox program, and many people gave periodically or each month to help support me and the Sharing Org's operating expenses. For all that you gave, I thank you from the bottom of my heart...

I sent out the 2008 giving statements in January for your year-end taxes. If you did not receive a statement and know that I owe you one, please contact me and I will correct the oversight.

During this quarter the residents and I are attempting to rediscover God through the person of Jesus Christ. Jesus told Philip (in John 14) that seeing Him is the same as seeing the Father. So we are exploring Jesus through the Scriptures in order to rediscover who God is and how he cares for each of us. **Please pray** for me as I try to communicate clearly and for the residents as they are trying to rediscover who God is in their lives.



We are focusing on two different projects to help the residents be missional this year. First, is our annual shoebox program. This is the cooperative project with Samaritan's Purse that allows the residents to pray for and give a gift to a poor child for Christmas. This project is very popular with the residents and so we start now by praying for the children and raising the funding that we need to fill the boxes. **You can help** by logging onto our website and adopting a milk-jug pig to help the residents raise the money necessary. Second, we are praying for a group of orphans in Zimbabwe as our ministry association is building a new orphanage for them. If you have heard anything about the political climate in Zimbabwe you know that the situation is not good over there and these children need lots of prayer for their daily sustenance. It is our privilege to be a part of what God is doing in their lives. **Please pray** for the Zimbabwe project and check our website for more information about it.

I want to offer up **a praise** as I have received a bookkeeping position for a small business. I am especially excited about this work as it helps me to redeem the second part of my education (business management and accounting) and comes at a great time as I am attempting to eliminate my medical debt. I am not thrilled with the extra load that this work will place upon my schedule, but it does allow me the flexibility to keep all of my ministry work and still spend time with my family.

Well, the next time I send a letter I will be announcing the arrival of our newest family member. **Please pray** for my wife as she will be delivering our 3rd. child and for my whole family as we adjust and welcome this newest member to our family.

Thank you for your continued love and support!

Blessings,
John

www.thesharing.org

PO Box 73 · Armada, MI 48005 · (586) 949-6885

*It is the **MISSION** of the Sharing Org to share the love of God and to build relationships with residents of care facilities by providing them with weekly interdenominational Christian worship services.*

Ministry Moment

You think you're innocent you've nothing to fear
You don't know me you say but isn't it clear?
You turn to me in all your worldly greed and pride.
But will you turn to me when it's your turn to die?

These words come from the song "Lord Of This World" by Black Sabbath. They recall for me the reality of the lives of people who do not yet call Christ "Lord."

In one of the Adult Foster Care Homes is a woman who has never come to any of the weekly services. Just recently she has been diagnosed with terminal cancer – *and now she comes each week*. When I look at her during the services she has eyes of remorse. I imagine that it is remorse for a life that knows all too well that its time has come and that it will all too soon meet God face to face. I say "I imagine" because in reality the face is likely sad because it has to wait for the next time cigarettes are distributed.

However, I do think that the reason she is attending the services now is because her life will come to an end all too abruptly. Because she knows that her only chance to make peace with God is now and tomorrow may be too late.

Sometimes I secretly wonder to myself if death sentences are not (in an eternal sense) a good thing for some people? When I look at the woman who has a new enthusiasm for coming to church I believe that it is.

Early in the morning, as I am getting ready to start my day of worship services, I sometimes wonder if my work in the nursing care facilities is worth the effort and the financial costs. I sometimes wonder this before my day begins but when I get there and see the people whom I serve I forget wondering such silly things and joyfully fulfill my obligation as His chosen servant.

~ John

I would like to partner with the Sharing Org and serve the residents of care facilities by giving them the love of God through the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

I would like to partner with the Sharing Org by making a **monthly contribution** of: \$50.00 \$25.00 \$15.00 **\$9.00** for 2009 \$_____ Other

I would like to support the Sharing Org by making a **one time donation** of: \$500.00 \$250.00 \$100.00 \$75.00 \$_____ Other

#0607030.5
Prayer Partner
12345 Anywhere St.
Your Town, MI 48---

Thank you for partnering with us as together we share the Love of God with the residents of care facilities.

You've pledged \$0 per month to support the Sharing Org.

Please make checks payable to: **The Sharing Org**
Please mail to: PO Box 73
Armada, MI 48005

Your gifts for 2009 have totaled \$0