

The Sharing Org

Ministry to the Nursing Care Community

January 1, 2010

Dear Partner,

Welcome to 2010 ! This is the beginning of a whole new year and a whole new decade - each of which promises more opportunities to glorify our God than we can shake a stick at. This year alone holds much promise for Christ's church to reach out like never before to the residents of Adult Foster Care (AFC) homes. This is the year that The Sharing Org encourages local churches, trains local churches, and then supports local churches as they adopt a single AFC home in their own community. Please pray for my efforts as I push forward with the plan to partner with local churches to reach out and share the love of God through Christ with AFC residents in their own communities.

MONDAY, JANUARY 18, 2010
UNO & PIZZA FUND-RAISER

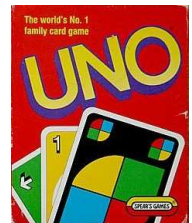
AT STEVI B'S ULTIMATE PIZZA BUFFET

~PIZZA: 11A-9P | UNO: 6P-8P~

50670 WATERSIDE DR. WWW.THESHARING.ORG
CHESTERFIELD, MI 48051 WWW.WATER-TO-WINE.ORG

TELL THEM YOU ARE WITH THE SHARING ORG

On January 18th we will be hosting an Uno Tournament & Pizza Fundraiser in conjunction with the Juarez Mission Team in order to raise money for the annual shoebox program and Juarez mission trip. We have added the Uno Tournament to the fundraiser this time, and kids are welcome to play, too. (*See our website for details.*) Please pray that this event will be a great blessing to raising the necessary funds for both ministries' programs.



As you may have noticed, the monthly prayer letter has changed. This is the second step for moving to our new accounting system and will certainly be better than the Access/Publisher system that I was using for these past years - but it will take me some time to figure out all the bells and whistles (and how to use them). Please be patient with me over the next few months as I figure it out and am sure to make the occasional mistake. I plan to send you a report every quarter so that you will be able to validate your contributions. Also, your charitable giving tax statement should arrive to you in the next couple of weeks - so be sure that it is on its way.

Terry Olsen (one of our prayer partners) made a donation in honor of another of our long-standing prayer partner's 60th birthday, so HAPPY 60th BIRTHDAY, Cathy Rock!!! Blessings to you, and may God grant you His grace as you enjoy this milestone in your life.

Also, the Iselys made a special donation in memory of Mildred Harris Moritz who passed in early October. Mildred outlived two husbands before her health required her to move into an assisted living facility where she gradually declined and needed more care until her passing. Thank you, Iselys, for sharing with us this gift in her memory.

Blessings,
John

Ministry Moments

This past month I was given the great honor of saying goodbye to one of our residents as I was asked to conduct a memorial service for the residents of her home.

In the short time that I knew her - we connected. Her mind was sharp and her faith was strong and she brought the worship service to life with her enthusiasm for God and her helpful hand to others needing assistance finding the right page in the hymnal or the Bible. Every time that I asked her how she was she would answer, "Blessed, I am very, very blessed." The part that was most inspiring about her response was that she was so severely handicapped because cancer had so riddled her body. She was missing limbs, her hair was gone, and she rarely felt well because of the chemo-therapy that was meant to kill the cancer poisoning her body. Despite all of it though, she was full of faith that God loved her and that Jesus had saved and healed her.

The memorial was quite the show of how beloved she actually was. Staff members came in on their days off to attend. Residents who were no longer living in that particular facility found ways to get there, and even one of her off-site care persons attended and shared in conducting the service. Together, we shared different memories of what she meant to us. There were tears of sorrow and much laughter as we recounted her influence in the lives of everyone that she came into contact with.

When the service was over and I was on my way home, I could not help but realize how blessed I was to be able to minister to someone like this woman. Of course, I know that I am blessed to make the acquaintance of all the residents but this woman was especially unique and I wondered who had ministered to whom?

~John

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