

# The Sharing Org

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Ministry to the Nursing Care Community

February 25, 2010

Dear Partner,

*"But Lord," Gideon asked, "how can I save Israel?  
My clan is the weakest in Manasseh,  
and I am the least in my family." (Judges 6:15)*

In a few short weeks, 25 pastors in our service area will receive the mail. In that mail will be a 3.5" x 3.5" x 1" box wrapped in plain white paper with their names printed plainly in the lower center under the postage sticker in the upper right corner indicating that it cost \$1.39 to send them this box.

Amidst the pile of assorted mail the pastor will notice this white box and think to himself that he will open it last because there are other pressing matters. But in reality it will be the first thing he opens because nobody sends packages unless it is really important.

As the pastor unwraps the little box, he will notice that a glossy black jewelry box is emerging. At this point the pastor will think to himself that surely the content is valuable because nobody puts something not valuable in a box as elegant as this.

The pastor will gingerly lift the lid from the box and immediately he will see a card with MATTHEW 16:19 printed on it along with the words, "YOU HOLD THE KEY." As he lifts the card, he will find a gold skeleton key lying on the white fiber pad in the jewelry box.

As the pastor wonders what this is all about, he will turn the card over and see that the key is from *The Sharing Org – Ministering to the Nursing Care Community in Macomb County, MI*. He will also see a access CODE# for when he visits the website [www.thesharing.org](http://www.thesharing.org). And he will visit – *Curiosity killed the cat, you know...*

Please pray with me that these first 25 pastors in Macomb County understand that *they* hold The Key for making sure that the love and gospel of God get to the residents in the AFC homes in their communities.

And please pray that I will not cower at the task *we* have been called to.

Blessings,  
John



## Ministry Moments

Hi there,

Just recently a gentleman moved into one of the homes that I serve. This man was reclusive, staying in his room as he was obviously unhappy about being moved into a home. I always wonder if I should knock, introduce myself, and invite residents like this to join us for worship - *But alas I never do*. It's just not my style, and I find that the residents themselves are really the best ones to invite new residents to worship – *and they do invite them*.

After two weeks the gentleman was in our worship service, and I could tell that he was nervous about being there. (I always wonder if it's the clerical collar, because who knows what such a collar means to a person?) Anyway, I shook his hand, welcomed him, and gave him a Hymn book, then I went to my place and began the worship service.

Just this last month I realized that the man has become a regular part of our worship service. He watches, he listens, and he participates with a smile all the time. He does not seem reclusive any more, and he responds to the message that God loves him, has not forgotten him, and through Jesus Christ, forgives him.

I really do enjoy this call of God on my life – thank you for being a part of it.

Blessings...

~John

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