

# The Sharing Org

Ministry to the Nursing Care Community

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March 31, 2010

Dear Prayer Partner,

Hi there! My words of wisdom to you? "*Be sure to have your taxes done by April 15.*" That is all I will say about that. ;-)

I pray your month has been blessed. This month's prayer letter will be short and sweet as I am swamped.

1. Since there are only 6 months to go, it is time to begin raising money for this year's shoebox program. We will be raising \$3,600 to provide 90 boxes to our residents. I have been able to reduce the price per box, and we are only planning on 90 residents participating. Here is how we will be funding this.
  - a. Pizza & UNO Tournaments – The next one is, Tuesday, April 6.
  - b. Home Sponsorship – There are 8 homes in need of sponsorship. Please see our website to learn which homes are not yet covered and how you, your church, church group, or civic group can help.
  - c. Individual box sponsorship - \$40.00 per box
  - d. Please pray that God will again provide for all our needs.
  
2. I am in the process of sending out jewelry boxes with golden keys inside to the 400+ churches in Macomb County to spread the word that some of Macomb County's 250+ AFC homes are in their own neighborhoods - and that the homes still need to be ministered to. These churches hold the key (quite literally – *Matthew 16:19*) to ministering to these homes. Please pray that:
  - a. The money does not run out before we reach all the churches this year.
  - b. That God would allow the decision-makers at the churches to see the message.

Thank you all for partnering with us and proclaiming to the residents of the Adult Foster Care community that God has not forgotten about them and that Jesus loves them.

Happy Easter to you!!!

Blessings,  
John



## Ministry Moments

In 1995 I lived in Akron, OH and God specifically told me to do a door-to-door outreach after I specifically told him that I "*don't do door-to-door stuff.*" After wrestling with this for a while I relented and got the church across the street from my apartment complex to let me use their building for this outreach. I rented a large screen television and prepared to show the *Jesus* movie.

I asked for prayer about this at a small group get-together at the church I was attending and a few people approached me to help. So, a week before the event my three new best friends and I went door to door and invited the people at 200 apartment units to join us for FREE pizza, soft-drinks, and a movie. People were warm and receptive to the invite, and we all anticipated what great work God would do in our presence.

The big night came and we opened the doors to welcome our guest. Yep, one guest... Out of 200 apartments invited, just one lady showed up. During the movie we noticed some odd things with our one guest, like the fact that she was openly (and loudly) passing gas and laughing about it to herself. Also, during the movie she began laughing very loudly during the crucifixion scene. I know some people would take this as a sign to cast out a demon, but not us. No, we took it as a sign that I did not really hear God in the first place.

Over the years I always remembered this incident, and I have always remained leery about "*hearing God.*" However, as a result of me meeting one of the friends that helped with the door-to-door outreach (and about 5 years time), I was able to meet the pastor who helped Megan and me to begin the ministry to the Adult Foster Care community in 2003. Both Megan and I began to rethink the whole "*hearing God speak*" because we are not convinced that our current call is simply coincidental.

Just the other day I felt that God had spoken to me again, but this was not about what I was to do but rather about what He had already had me do (*the door-to-door outreach of 1995*). He asked me to answer two questions: 1) What is the mental situation with the majority of people whom I serve in the Adult Foster Care facility? 2) What was the mental situation of the one woman who showed up to the door-to-door outreach?

This past month I was blessed as I was able to once again join the elders from Lifelink International at the annual North American Elders Conference in Grand Rapids, MI. I was encouraged both generally and specifically about this ministry to the Adult Foster Care community. While Megan and I were there, the Lord brought to my attention again how the entire path of this specific work began back in 1995 when God spoke to me during a time of contemplative prayer and how He is still here leading us into an unknown future of Service with Him.

*"In your unfailing love will you lead the people you have redeemed.  
In your strength you will guide them to your Holy dwelling."  
Exodus 15:13*

From the song of Miriam when the children of Israel remembered how God delivered them from the hands of the Egyptians.

Blessings...

~John

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