

The Sharing Org

Ministry to the Adult Foster Care Community

August 2012

Ministry Moment:

Can I whine a bit? You won't think poorly of me will you? I'm just learning a little what it is like to lose a friend to dementia. Some of my friends that I have had for these last many years are getting to the point that they are no longer able to function or think well. There used to be no need for the clerical collar with these people as they easily knew me by sight, but now, they don't even recognize me – *even with the uniform.*

It's silly, I know, I went into this ministry wanting to develop such relationships, wanting to be a person who would weep for the residents when they pass, and wanting to be for them a liaison of Christ. I feel a bit like a child who keeps whacking himself with a hammer and complaining that it hurts - *but won't stop swinging the hammer.* I guess this is the innate danger of any relationship.

I think I am beginning to understand a little-bit about how children may feel as their parents no longer recognize them.

Yes I am whining. As I consider the recent tragedy in Colorado my angst gets put into perspective and I know that God will make all things new when we leave this world but for today it is still difficult to lose a friend in my own little world. I am willing to wager that it is always difficult to lose a friend.

~John

Prayer Letter:

Dear Prayer Partner,

Well last month I told you that I would let you know how the putt-putt fundraiser turned out, so here I am to pass along that information.

The Putt-Putt Hole-in-One fundraising event turned out much better than I had actually thought it would. I am very thankful that God has brought our good friend Liz alongside of me because without her help I shudder to think how poor of an event it would have been. And that was just Liz, my wife was a huge help as well as she knew how to stand her ground in my stubbornness and argue for points that needed to be argued. Without my wife I would have still been trying to get people to shoot a rocket into a barrel - And that would have been a disgrace. ;-). Then there are all sorts of people who need honorable mentions as they too helped during the event – Cathy (of course my mom), Heidi, Bill, Pete, Jackie, Michael, Michael Anne, and Melissa, & Brad - Also a slew of sponsors who gave prizes for every hole, raffles, and a bunch of door prizes. And I best not forget all of the people who sent money because they could not make it and the 64 people who could make it - For they were the participants at this event. If I missed anyone I do apologize.

When all was said and done we raised about \$1000 for the Shoebox event. Not bad at all – thank you again to all who donated in some way. Next year will be even better. We have another 60% to go with raising the funds for the shoebox project so I would ask that you would pray with us for that. I am praying for you that God would lay it on your heart to do your own fundraising event for this project so keep your ear out for God because he might just give you a holler.

So, I will close here with a blessing to you and I pray that God will use you in a mighty way for his kingdom.

For His Throne,



John