

The Sharing Org

Ministry to the Adult Foster Care Community

April 2013

Ministry Moment:



My great Uncle Ed is mentally handicapped. It has been my extreme privilege to have Uncle Ed in one of the homes that I serve and to see him so enjoy the times of worship.

The other day during the music he was waving his hands like a conductor of a symphony - it was rhythmic and felt. As he swayed and his body twisted in his wheelchair it dawned on me that this was his equivalent of an "Interpretive Dance"... An Interpretive Dance...

Uncle Ed finds joy in Santa Claus, the Easter Bunny, coloring, and watching football on television. He is hard to understand at times but I always know my name "John-Boy" when he hollers it across a room. I love that he interprets things so simply – to him things are honest and genuine and good. To Uncle Ed, Jesus loves him and there is not a need for any more discussion after that.

I am pretty confident that he does not understand anything about the Holy Trinity or the humanness and deity of Jesus. I'm not even sure if he has ever been baptized. But when I saw him doing his interpretive dance, I could not help but recognize a childlike faith that is pure and simple – a trusting that all is taken care of in the world.

As I celebrated the Easter season, I was reminded that the tomb was empty and because of that Uncle Ed is right – the world has been taken care of.

~John

Prayer Letter:

Dear Prayer Partner,

I mentioned in last month's prayer letter that I was looking for a fund-raiser in order to raise money for new song books for the homes. Then a couple of days after that, I was getting the books that I already had together to take into the new service location, and my wife suggested that we take a picture of some of the really worn out and grubby ones and post it on Facebook for people to see what we are working with. In less than a week, we had donations enough to cover the 100 new books - *and more - thank you!* Just to clarify, it was not just Facebook, but it was all of you as well (*who receive this prayer letter*) who sent in contributions in response to last month's comment. Thank you so much!

This month my wife went into the hospital for an outpatient surgery. Everything went very well, and she recovered quite quickly. Now we are just waiting for the doctor to confirm that all has healed up. I thank you for your prayers for her during this time, and some of you even sent donations specifically to help us pay for the surgery – *thank you!* Megan commented that it is a shame that she has to have a surgery in order to get a couple of days to lay in bed and rest. Huh, she is "Mom," so she was really lucky to get even that! ;-)

So where are we for the 2013 Goals?

1. To continue with our mission: *WE SHARE THE GOSPEL WITH THE ADULT FOSTER CARE COMMUNITY. WITH YOUR SUPPORT IF WE MAY, ALONE IF WE MUST, BUT ALWAYS WITH THE COMPASSION OF CHRIST. (CHECK. WE STARTED A NEW WORSHIP SERVICE!)*
2. To make 100 new song books for the homes. *(CHECK, MONEY RAISED; JUST NEED TO PRODUCE)*
3. To do 100 shoeboxes this year with the residents we serve. *(BEGINNING THE PLANNING STAGES)*
4. To write and publish a 10th year anniversary book about the ministry. *(IN PROGRESS, PLEASE PRAY THAT I CAN GET THROUGH THE EDITING PROCESS WITHOUT PUSHING IT TO THE BACK-BURNER AND FORGETTING ABOUT IT.)*
5. To make this year's annual budget of \$33,000 *(~~\$7,000~~ THIS QUARTER - IMPRESSIVE!)*

Everything is coming together rather nicely so far this year. Thank you for your continued prayers and financial support for us and all the people whom we are able to share the love of Jesus with. May God richly bless you and your whole family.

In His Name,



John