



The Sharing Organization

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Ministry Moment...

I remember when I was in 7th grade at church camp.

It was a quiet moment in Chapel, right after the minister's message but just before the altar-call. It was a somber moment when you knew you were supposed to be quiet. In the midst of the quiet, a woodpecker began rapping the wood somewhere in the sanctuary and everyone was pulled from their reverence and began looking around for the source of the noise. It stopped as quickly as it started but everyone was still looking around for that bird when a kid in the third-row pew yelled out, "Oh man, Tony, that stinks!" All of a sudden everyone realized what it was that we heard and began to laugh hysterically as we watched Tony try to melt into the wooden pew that his bottom rapped upon like a woodpecker in the forest. I guess Korie Robertson from Duck Dynasty was right when she said, "A fart is always funny."

This month we had the same experience at one of the homes. We were sitting around the table on these awesome Amish-made hard-wood chairs when all of a sudden a slow but persistent rapping filled the room. I looked around to see if someone was hammering, and everyone else began looking around too when one guy looked to another and began waving his hand to fan off the smell.

I wasn't sure how I was supposed to handle the situation. So I did what anyone should do when someone does an awesome job at letting their wind fly: *I applauded him.*

Once I began to applaud, the laughing began, especially once we realized that the guy who initially waved his hand was the perpetrator and simply fanned in order to place the blame on an innocent man. It must have taken five minutes to restore order, and I think at that point we were done; so we prayed and disbanded for the week.

I have experienced quite a few things in the 15 years that I have been ministering in the homes, but this deliberately loud and awesome fart was a first, and it deserved to be applauded.

~John

Prayer Letter...

Dear Prayer Partner,

We are hosting a **Meet & Greet & Eat** on February 17th from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Haven Place, 58575 Main Street, New Haven, MI 48048. If you are able to join us for some pizza and cake, we'd love for you to come out. This isn't a fancy event, just come out, shake our hands, grab some pizza, eat some cake and chatter about for a couple hours. We want to have the opportunity to visit with you and share what God is doing through The Sharing Organization. And if your friend or pastor doesn't know about our work, this would be a great time to invite him/her to come enjoy some free food and to meet us face to face. Just contact me via phone or e-mail by February 16th to RSVP with how many people will be joining you.

Last month I told you about a new program that we are developing called the Pedestrian Packages. Well, we call it the Pedestrian Kits Outreach now and have posted the proposal paper on our website. Please take a few minutes to take a look at it and learn about this new program.

I've sent out the end-of year tax statements with this letter. If I failed to include one for you, or something isn't right, please call me and I'll fix things.

I ask that you would pray for me this month as I have to begin calling corporations to get funding for the new program. I'm not very strong at fundraising, so this is a bit of a challenge for me. I'm confident that God would have me contact certain companies, but still, fundraising is not something I especially like or am good at, so please pray that I can do what needs to be done. If you have any corporate contacts that would be interested in our community safety outreach, please put me in touch with them!

Also, please pray for the residents as we begin this 2018 calendar year. Many of them will pass away before the year is through, or move on to another home. Please remember to pray for them as I am dependent upon God to give them strength to hold on to (*or come to*) their faith in Christ our Lord. With most of the residents having dementia or some form of mental illness, I am never sure that what I say actually means anything to them, but I know that by the Spirit of God, men are saved and supported in their faith.

I pray for you, I pray that our Lord will strengthen your own walk with Him and that He will ease your heart as you rest in Him. And please, if you are able, join us at Haven Place this month on the 17th at 2 p.m.

For His Glory,



John R. Rock