



The Sharing Organization

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JUNE 2018

Ministry Moment...

Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

(1 Corinthians 12:27)

Do you know what draws me to the work of The Sharing Organization: the task of going to the nursing care facilities and sharing the love and gospel of Jesus; the task of going into the homes and reminding the saints there about God's love and the presence of Jesus via the Spirit. I am driven by the firm belief that people of faith are quite literally the body of Jesus Christ here on earth. There is certainly an evangelistic element to the work, but I have learned that most of my work is to help the people who served in their churches with their lives to remember that they are not forgotten.

I remember that once there was an elderly woman in our church. She was quite poor, and I often wondered if she had all of her sensibilities. A single woman in the church used to pick her up and bring her to the church functions, and so she was part of the "Body of Christ." But one day she wasn't there, the news spread that she had moved into a nursing home somewhere, and I never saw nor heard of her again. As I think back on that situation, I realize that I didn't really care because I had my own life that needed attending to, and I couldn't be bothered with seeking her out to make sure she was OK. I'm not proud of it, but I wasn't alone either. I don't think anyone in the church ever sought her out to care for her.

The other day I thought about the Body of Christ. I used to think of people in the church as "useful" or "not" based on what I perceived. It struck me that that was sort of how doctors perceived the usefulness of the tonsils in the 1970's. Doctors figured that people didn't really need tonsils because we could live without them. So in the mid 70's children across the land were getting them removed. But what we now know is that they are very useful to the immune system. I wish that we knew then what we know now so that we would have fought a little harder to keep my tonsils.

Today I have a bum right foot, but I have not chosen to cut it off and throw it away. Instead I pamper it, support it, and care for it. It's part of my body, and bum or not, I want to care for it. Just like my foot, there are many members of Christ's body who presently live in nursing care facilities who likewise need to be valued and cared for because they are the Body of Christ.

~John

Prayer Letter...

Dear Kayla,

If you are local, remember that we are hosting a **Meet & Greet & Eat** on June 2nd from 1 to 5 p.m. at Haven Place, 58575 Main Street, New Haven, MI 48048. The doors will open at 1 p.m. with the program starting at 1:30 p.m. **Please join us and bring friends who you think would appreciate our work.** Contact me via phone or e-mail by June 1st to RSVP with how many people will be joining you.

This month I would ask you to pray for us in just two areas: work and health.

First, I am asking God to provide more work for me. The ministry's 2018 budget was formed from the 2017 revenues. I had a lot of extra funerals and pulpits to fill in 2017, and this year has not been as busy. The funeral homes that call on me report that it's been a slow year for them as well, and the pulpits are expected to pick up as I am presently scheduled to fill in for three pulpits this month. I am not worried, because our Lord has never *not* provided, but I still feel better when the budget is in the black. 😊 We are currently about 30% behind in the ministry budget, and I have not been taking a full salary each month.

Second, please pray for my motivation level. I've been battling not feeling well physically, with persistent body soreness, and I think it's taking its toll on me. I don't think I am struggling with any depression, but I don't seem to have any motivation or internal gumption to do the things I need to be doing. I seem to have plenty of time, if I will manage my time well, but I tend to prefer to veg and watch television which isn't like me. Not the television part (I've always been an addict) but the not working on the things that I need to be working on part. I don't believe that procrastination is something that defines me, but it feels like it's something that is dominating me since the beginning of the year. I believe that my doctor and I have gotten the body soreness under control with medications, but I still have little desire to do what needs to be done. So please keep me in your prayers that God might show me what is hindering and causing me to mentally avoid my duties.

As always, I do so appreciate your prayers and support as together we provide the residents in the nursing care facilities with the love and gospel of Jesus. It's eternally important that we are able to go each week to let them know that God has not forgotten them and Jesus certainly loves them where they are. My thanks to you seem inadequate, but one day I am certain that our impact will be huge in the lives of the many that we have touched through the years.

Enjoy the blessing of the summer!

By His grace,



John R. Rock

*For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face.
Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.*

(1 Corinthians 13:12)