

God is helping us

For this newsletter, I wanted to give a short praise report about how God is helping us as a church so far this year.

First off, we all join together in missing our friend Travis Hollis. We are thankful for how the Lord is helping Jody and we want to keep her in prayer and be sensitive to her needs in this new chapter of her life. God really helped us to rally together as a team and reach out to the Hollises. I remember the night Travis went down to Indianapolis, and I could not make it down until the next day. In spite of this, I think that a portion of our church took over part of the hospital that night, with multiple families descending on the place to show their love towards Travis, Jody, and one another! A similar thing happened on the Thursday night when Travis went into ER at St. Joseph's hospital. I thought I was going to make it over there the next day, but later that night I found out that a second member of our congregation was over there at ER too, so I figured I'd better head over after I put the kids in bed and see what was going on. I walked into the ER waiting room after 10PM that night, only to see, yet again, that there was a whole group from our church there!! Praise God for this display of love towards those in need and towards one another. I thought to myself that Thursday night church service just wasn't enough for these people! They had to come over to the hospital to continue the church meeting until late at night! Jesus said that they would know we were his disciples because we had love for one another. I think that the staff over at Welbrook are finding out the same thing as a constant stream of visitors marches down the hallway to visit Laverne. Great job on that everyone! This is truly tag team in-reach ministry. The other day I went to visit Laverne with Elaine and Simonne, and Wayne was already there when we arrived! We hung out on the sofa in the lounge area and had a great time.

A similar joint team effort was made at our Rescue Mission Chapel outreach this month. As usual, we divided into ministry teams to give the men the royal treatment, with one team praying, one team greeting, one team singing. Derek was excited about a very solid group in the prayer room including several of our men. When I called everyone up to sing to the men, the choir was so huge, it could hardly fit around the altar. What a blessing it was for me to tell those men, "Don't just take my word for it, all these people are here to say, "Amen" to the saving power of Jesus Christ."

This last weekend of the month was equally encouraging with a good spirit of oneness and participation. We put out a last minute invite to our home on Friday night for anyone who wanted to come over and socialize and play a game. We had a good turnout and were very blessed that Emily brought her cousin Daniel. The games were fun, the fellowship edifying, then it broke out into a time round the piano praising Jesus! Everyone was encouraged and I believe Daniel was blessed too. On Sunday it just seemed like this spirit of goodwill continued. We had specifically prayed at men's prayer meeting that the Jacksons would be able to make it out this week, and sure enough, there they were. Again, at Northwood Commons that night, the fellowship just continued. There was a great turn out both from our church and the residents. People were sitting in the hallway. When I dismissed the service and invited people to stay and pray for one another, I looked around the room and you were all visiting with the residents and loving them and praying for them. Even at the end, when most everyone had left there was a small group from our church that stayed and shared with one another.

So this is my "beholding", in accordance with Psalms 133:1, "Behold, [take a good look, think about] how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" Do you think the devil is just going to let this happen? No! We need to keep working hard in love and in prayer to push back the warfare. We need to be intentional about how we can include one another in life and reach out to one another so that our relationships are up-to-date, and that we are actually DWELLING together. By God's grace, I believe that we can. Well done. Keep up the good work. Pray for me. - Pastor Nicky.

P.S. There have been numerous other examples of individuals reaching out to one another this month that were very encouraging that I have not had space to mention, and I suspect several that I don't even know about. If you know about them, please let me know so we can keep the good news about the good news flowing!



February 2018

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|----------------------|--------|---|
| | | | | 1 Church 7pm | 2 | 3 |
| 4 Church 10 & 6:00 Shelia Fasbender | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 Church 7pm | 9 | 10 Walk_A_Mile Couples Dinner CHWC 6pm |
| 11 Church 10 Homegroups 5pm | 12 Mariah Robbins | 13 | 14 Valentines Day Stephanie Parent | 15 Church 7pm | 16 | 17 |
| 18 Church 10 KRM Service 6:30pm Tim Robbins | 19 Presidents Day | 20 Terry Sullivan | 21 | 22 Church 7pm | 23 | 24 |
| 25 Church 10 Building Fund Northwoods 5:30pm | 26 | 27 | 28 | | | |