

HARVEST OF LIFE

Quarterly Newsletter



JUNE 2019

www.harvestoflife.org



We give thanks to You, O God; we give thanks, for Your name is near.

We recount Your wondrous deeds.” Psalms 75:1

What a time we've had these past three months watching God move and perform His wondrous deeds! We are so thankful for all that the Lord has done and so blessed to have you as a part of this journey.

Thank you so much to all those who prayed for and/or participated in our MAD Dash/Silent Auction/Pancake Breakfast fundraiser on March 23rd. What a success as God answered your prayers and ours! We had some specific prayer requests and the Lord answered them all! We prayed for good weather (no rain) and you couldn't have asked for a better day. It was gorgeous! We prayed for the safety of the runners and no one got hurt. We prayed for 100 runners and how the Lord answered this one was awesome! Remember that He doesn't always answer your prayers according to your timetable. After the race on Saturday our person keeping track of registration came up to us and told us we had 99 registered runners that day. I'm a numbers guy, so I was a little bummed we didn't hit 100 on the nose since this is the number we asked God for, but we were thankful for it because that was a pretty good number for it being our first race. Well, at church the next day, a lady comes up to Sarah and apologized for not being at the race and expressed how she really wanted to participate, but her schedule that day wouldn't allow it. She wanted to pay the registration fee for the race and be counted as a runner (she didn't know about our prayer or the total number of runners from the race). So, Sarah proceeded to tell her about her being a specific answer to prayer and being our 100th runner! God also answered our prayer for the amount of money in sponsorships and take-home profit. He went above and beyond both requests! Looking forward to seeing how God is going to work next year!

We have also been tremendously blessed in souls being saved! In the month of March, we had 5 men come forward during our alter calls at the end of our worship services and give their lives to Jesus. Then, on April 20th, what a day we had at Holmes Correctional Institution! God is faithful! We were able to team up with another ministry and spend all day at Holmes CI! We took 13 male volunteers down onto the compound in the morning and we got to visit with the men on the recreational field, in the dorms, and in confinement. We ate lunch with them in the chow hall and spent all morning sharing the gospel and our lives with these men and invited them to come up to the chapel for the afternoon worship service. Over 160 guys came to the service, and even better, 11 men came forward and gave their lives to Christ! What an awesome day that was and we are praising God for the doors being opened for us to do more of this kind of ministry.

This next quarter is full of ministry opportunities as the Harvest of Life Ministry team continues going into three different prisons for worship services and I am going in three times a week into different prisons teaching Bible study classes. Besides these opportunities, we will have an opportunity of hosting Andrew Foster and Inspiration Ministries in June! He and his family will be coming down from Indiana and spending a week with us going into the prisons and sharing what God is doing with His ministry. An added blessing will be him being able to bring his wife into the prisons with him along with another couple that will be coming with them! Then in August, Sarah and I will have the opportunity to travel up to Indiana to spend a weekend with Andrew and support them in their annual fundraiser. Please be in prayer for us at Harvest of Life as we continue seeking the Lord and His direction for His ministry.

If you are already approved as a prison volunteer or are interested in becoming one, we have opportunities this quarter for you to come in with us and be a part of our worship services on the 2nd and 4th Sundays and 3rd Saturdays of each month or just come in with me to a class during the week (Tuesday-Thursday morning). There's a place for you, if you are interested. *Instead of the Donor Spotlight this month, I invite you to read the testimonial that was submitted as it was written by a man in one of our Bible Study Classes, very powerful!* Thank you for praying for this ministry!

We invite you to join us in this exciting ministry that is changing lives.

Harvest of Life is a faith-based ministry which depends wholly on your support through prayer and financial gifts.

Email us at evans@harvestoflife.org or visit our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/harvestoflife.org> .

“...Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are white for harvest!” John. 4:35

HARVEST OF LIFE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

June 2019

www.harvestoflife.org

Missionary Report



Here is an excerpt from our missionaries Dan and Marilyn Nase's Notes:

It's always a blessing to receive letters, phone calls or even emails from inmates who have been released from prison and are living in the "free world". Some of them we've known for several years. They were faithful in attending Bible studies, worship services or participating in the Faith Based Dorms. One woman who attended the Spanish worship services – although she wasn't Hispanic, she had been married to a man from

South America and had lived there for several years and was fluent in the language. Three years ago, she became ill and had quit attending the services. We assumed she had died until we received a letter from her written on small scraps of paper telling us that she had been transferred to another prison where she was hospitalized. She was currently in confinement (a single cell) because she had refused to go to dialysis. She wanted to die. She told us that she had given up on life and had no reason to go on living. We were aware that she had two married daughters and two grandchildren that she had never seen. I wrote back to encourage her and assure her that Jesus loved her very much and urged her to contact her daughters. It was a couple weeks before Valentine's day and I knew that because she was in confinement, she had no way of getting Valentines, so I sent her Valentine cards and stamps for her to mail to both daughters and both grandbabies. A few weeks later she wrote to us again telling us that she was out of confinement, back in the dorm and going to dialysis regularly. Both of her daughters and their husbands which she had never met and both of her grandbabies that she had never seen before had come to the prison to visit her. While there, they assured her of their love for her. Two years later she finished serving her sentence and was released. Just last week we received an email from her telling us that she is now living with one of her daughters and still going for her dialysis treatments.

PRAISE GOD FOR HIS LOVE, CARE AND GOODNESS!

- Dan & Marilyn.



Testimonial

Hold Firm - "Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong." 1 Corinthians 16:13

As a young boy, I found sword fighting captivating. My friends and I bought wooden practice swords and went at each other. We copied forms from wherever we could: books, cartoons, even some flashy moves from movies. Learning didn't always go well though, at times I would get cracked good against my ribs, arms, and legs. My close friend, Steve, was a big kid who for some reason liked aiming for my skull! Needless to say, (I'll say it anyway), I'd get discouraged, throw my sword down and quit. Sometimes for days or even weeks. But, I always picked that sword back up. Now, many, many years and painful lessons later, I'm not half-bad at the art of sword-fighting. The first time I read the epistles of Paul, the way he used soldiers, sword, and shield to teach, I latched on to those word images. I felt drawn to the idea and still am today. "A soldier for Christ." After all, there is a war going on, right? "No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier." (2 Timothy 2:4). The battle will not be easy. For me, it began with the sudden death of my niece from cancer. She was 23 years old and the mother of a seven-month old son. Being fairly new to the faith then, I barely blocked that blow deflecting it as my faith floundered with doubt. But I fought on, drawing strength from His Spirit within, growing in skill, determined to please Him who enlisted me. Ephesians 6:10 became a touchstone for me, "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might." I've always been a fighter. The next blow to my faith came in a swift, brutal flurry. My son was in the hospital, in a coma. I swiped that strike aside and stepped in to counter, my faith holding fast. Two days later, I was battered to my knees, weapon held high, straining to keep the attack from ending me; part of me wanted it to end. My son had passed away. He was only 17. This fight lasted a while, with me gaining, then losing ground. In the end, I endured within His might. This life I've been given, rebirth, comes with struggles. At times I feel overwhelmed, attacks lashing out from all sides at once. It happens, it's all a part of life. Nothing worth having comes without effort, except Grace. A few years after losing my son the next attack came. This time, however, I was well prepared. (1 Corinthians 16:13). It was a full-frontal barrage! I stood my ground and finished the fight, still on my feet. I was wounded, hurt and wearied, but firm. My brother, too, had passed away. A mighty soldier of Christ, my big bro fought till the end when cancer came at him. He went home, his war here complete. In between these battles there have been many smaller clashes and there will be many more before I lay my weapon down and go home. Until that day comes though, I trudge on one foot in front of the other gaining ground. Why? Because it's a war worth fighting for! 2 Timothy 4:5 says it all, I think. Beat down, scarred, battered and worn, it's what I signed up for, what I've been entrusted – blessed – to do. I say this not as a boast, I am not strong. I lean on and depend on many God-loving men and women. This is far beyond the feeble strength I have. It's God, the Holy Spirit, that fuels my weary bones. I'm not alone in this war. If you're reading this, perhaps you have been called. If so, then I welcome you and encourage you to pick up your weapon – the Word of God – and fight! I leave you with a quote from William Ernest Hemley, "In the fell clutch of circumstance I have not winched nor cried out loud. Under the bludgeoning of chance my head is bloody, but unbowed . . ."

Stand fast, in faith. John D.