

# Siloam Missionary Homes

"providing housing to missionaries for a lifetime..."

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www.siloamhomes.org

**FALL 2005** 

Dear Friends,

It feels like fall today. We had a hot dry summer. It is one of those days you want to go for a walk, mow the yard or wash the car. A friend of mine calls that "hiding" instead of working in the office. My attention span today is limited to the weather.

These past couples of weeks have been very stressful for everyone as we watched the television and saw the effects of the hurricane. Here at home, we stood in amazement as the price of gas jumped daily. I was even beginning to think we would run out of gas. I started to worry about "what if's." Being missionaries ourselves, we had concerns over getting to missions conferences and it has made us think twice before going into town. It required all of us to pray for guidance, and for reassurance.

Each day is a step of faith. We do not know what will lay ahead for us today. I do know that we are not the only ones that had anxious moments. King Jehoshaphat was afraid. In 2 Chronicles 20, verses 3 and 4, Jehoshaphat feared and set himself to seek the Lord, and proclaim a fast throughout all Judah. "And Judah gathered themselves together, to ask help of the Lord; even out of all the cities of Judah they came to seek the Lord." Then the Lord answered in verse 15 and he said, "Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou King Jehoshaphat. Thus saith the Lord unto you, be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's." Wow! What an encouragement to me to know that in our anxious moments we have the Lord to turn to. He says in His Word not to worry, it's not our problem but His. Praise the Lord. God is still in control of all situations.

As we look toward the winter months, we would like to ask you to pray for all the missionary families and staff here at Siloam Missionary Homes. The cost of utilities is going up. We need Gods people to pray.





Top: "Smiling faces as everyone listened to Squire Parsons and the other music."

Bottom: "In spite of the heat, everyone enjoyed a delicious meal."

We had a great pig pic'n August 11th with approximately 900 in attendance. We talked with friends we have not seen in years and met many new friends. The fellowship was wonderful. I would like to thank Joe Loy for helping me as Master of Ceremonies, for Dewey Rainey and his clan for making the barbeque, The Masters Quartet, Squire Parsons and his trio along with the Bethel Baptist Church choir, the volunteers that gave countless hours in planning and making this a great success, and for the servers. We praise the Lord for all the folks that helped sponsor the occasion. Most of all, we are thankful for those of you who sat in the heat and for being a blessing to so many. Thank you for coming. Mark your calendars for our pig pic'n scheduled the second Friday in August next summer. Pray for cooler weather!

We love each of you and I would like to thank you for your encouraging e-mails, letters and prayers. May the Lord continue to bless you as we serve Him together.

-Larry George, President

### Vicksburg Bible Church Lends a Helping Hand



"Vicksburg teens lead music & story time with missionary kids"



"Putting up a wall in the work shop"



"Vicksburg Bible Church painting the fence at entrance"

### **MY MIKE**

his summer we had a young man from Indiana come down to help me out with maintenance for the summer. Mike Yoder gave his whole summer to come and help with the mowing, work groups, and anything else we needed him to do [except snake removal]. During our first workgroup week, we had 3 "Mikes" on the property. I needed to figure out a way to call for them without 3 guys running at me. So I woke up the first day of the first group and realized that if I took the initials of their first and last name I ended up with M. E. [Mike Estleman], M.R. [Mike Rich], and M.Y. [Mike Yoder]. So I had Me Mike, Mr. Mike, and My Mike. This ended all the confusion.

We all had a very busy summer and we couldn't have done it without Mike Yoder here. Thanks Mike, it's been a great summer working with you.

This year we had 5 weeks of workgroups in a row. We had "Dad's Country Store" brought down from Indiana and erected next to our little chapel. We had painting done all over the property, lighting put in along the walking trail behind the Family Center, and fence and a stone tower built. One of our houses received a complete "makeover" with a new roof, siding, deck, and railings. We also had weeding, cleaning and organizing of different areas going on all over the place.

I want to thank all the groups again for giving of their time, talents and resources to come help make Siloam a nicer place for missionaries to live. It's amazing to see all that was accomplished through each one that came. Things that wouldn't have been possible for us to get done in several months were done in 5 short weeks. God truly blessed Siloam again this year as He has done in the past. **Thank you and may God Bless!** 

—Richard Burlingham, Director of Maintenance

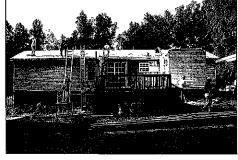
#### GRINER MENNONITE CHURCH ANSWERS THE CALL



"Griner Mennonite Church youth and sponsors"



"Griner Mennonite Church re-shingle roof on one of the homes"



"Hanging new siding on home"

#### CLARKSDALE COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH



"Clarklake Community Baptist Church building fence sections"



"Painting fences"

### SETTLING IN

Wow! What an amazing summer it has been! We fixed well over 1900 meals in 6 weeks! What an opportunity to meet some great people who helped us in the kitchen from each work group.

Our family is settling in nicely as we are learning how we fit into the picture at Siloam. Our ministry right now at Siloam is being host and hostess of the Family Center- cooking for work groups, church groups, guests and missionaries traveling through. I am also learning the ins and outs of Siloam as Assistant Director so I can assist Larry in meetings and making contacts with people.

It is exciting to see each day how the Lord answers prayers for us along with the missionaries here at Siloam. We praise the Lord for this wonderful opportunity that we've been given to serve at Siloam. It's great to wake up every morning knowing we're in the center of God's will. We covet your prayers for our family as we minister at Siloam. Hope to see you coming through for our Christmas dinners in December!

-Mike Rich, Assistant Director



# TESTIMONY FROM A SUMMER VOLUNTEER

"This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and grow in him." My name is Michael Yoder. I live in Shipshewana, Indiana and am a member of Roselawn Conservative Mennonite Church.

For the past two summers, my youth group came to Siloam to do a weeklong work project. One thing that I will always appreciate about being at Siloam is the emphasis on

spiritual growth. This year, I came to Siloam as a summer volunteer and it has been great getting to know and working with everyone here.

This truly is a beautiful place. I love the southern country and all the folks. The best thing to drink is "real southern sweet tea." I did enjoy all the new experiences, meeting new people that come to Siloam, and a trip to the beach.

It has been amazing to see God work and provide many things for the missionary families and for Siloam to bless the families who stay here.

One thing that I understand more about is the need for missionary housing. I think that this place is an answer to prayer when a family calls up and asks for a home and they are told, "Yes, we have a place for you to stay."

As I sit here and type this letter, I think about all the missionaries here on the property and wonder if I have done everything I possibly could have while I was serving here. My challenge to all who read this is, "Are we really doing everything we possibly can to support missionaries." These people have stepped out in faith to preach the Gospel. What are we as people doing to help support missionaries? I believe that providing missionary housing is one way of supporting our missionaries and I praise God for teaching me that this summer.

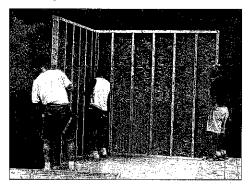
There are also many thank you's to express. I'd like to thank my church for prayer and financial support and thanks to everyone who made it possible to me to be able to come and serve, and for the staff at Siloam for putting up with me and providing me with many new opportunities. Thanks to all those who sent gift boxes, letters, and for all the phone calls. I appreciated all this very much. But mostly, I'd like to thank the Lord for teaching and providing me with everything that I have needed. This experience will always have special meaning to my heart. I hope that I am able to share with others more about my experience serving at Siloam Missionary Homes.

-Mike Yoder, Summer Volunteer

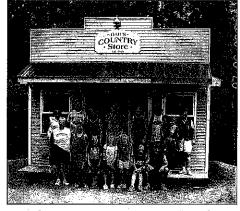
## MAPLE GROVE CHURCH VOLUNTEERS AT WORK



"Maple Grove Church unloads Dad's Country Store from a flatbed truck"



"Putting up the store walls"



"Dad's Country Store completed"

### **1ST ARP CHURCH HITS THE TRAIL!**



"1st ARP Church spreading mulch on walking trail"



"installing walk trail lights behind Family Center"



"Walking trail lights completed"



#### Dear Coffee Club Members,

Somehow it seems that summer has slipped by and I find myself wondering where the time has gone. However, as I look at the photos that show all that has been done over the past three months, I understand just where it went! We had a great time with each group and we have grown to love each person who came and gave time and talents.

On the home front, Rachel has settled into a new collections job at Citibank and is enjoying this new challenge in her life. She is sharing an apartment with two other single girls in Burlington. Her schedule is quite busy so we don't see her as often as we'd like, but it is good to have her close by. Please continue to pray for the Lord's leading in her life.

Mike, Abbey, Macie and Preston have settled into a home just down the street from us and are now on staff here at Siloam. It is a blessing to have them with us and great to be able to spoil the kids. They worked very hard during the work groups and did a fantastic job with the meals (but now I've got to take off those 5 pounds...!)

Would you be willing to help us provide houses for missionaries by become a Coffee Club Member? Thank you for praying for us. God bless you all.

Your "Coffeemate," Joyce George

# PLAN YOUR CHRISTMAS PARTY AT SILOAM MISSIONARY HOMES FAMILY CENTER. CALL MIKE OR ABBEY FOR DETAILS AT 376-8200.

My love gift: I would like to join the Coffee Clu	ib with a monthly pled	ge of
□ \$15	□ \$50	□ Other \$ (Please send my Coffee Club cup.)
One Time Gift \$	•	
Please designate my one time gift for:		
0 , 0		
DONATION FOR (check appropriate box):		
Richard & Jennifer Burlingham salary	☐ Family Center	☐ Larry & Joyce George salary
☐ Mike and Abbey Rich salary	General Fund or	(specify project)
Please make checks payable to Siloam Missionary	Homes	
Name		and the second and Methods
Address		
City/State/Zip		
Please charge my credit card:	asterCard	□Visa
Account Number		Exp. Date
Signature		
v		at year's and unless otherwise requested