

Siloam Missionary Homes

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

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WINTER 2008

WATCH, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love. ~I cor. 16:13, 14

THE OTHER DAY, a friend of mine met me for lunch and we talked about our week. It had been a busy time for both of us. Juggling our ministries and making time for our families. I had just finished my schooling and was contemplating what to do next. Talking to my friend, I said, "you know I feel the Lord is trying to teach me to get my life in order." He said he felt the same way. I feel the urgency of completing the task. I need to be focused on him.

During my devotions this morning, I was thinking about this conversation when I came across a passage in I Cor. 16:13, 14. "Watch" in the Bible Knowledge Commentary says that the passage is a command. "Be on your guard," might be rendered "be diligent" in carrying out the will of God. And we are to "give ourselves fully to the work of the Lord." I'm sure you are tiring of the politicians running for president. Every day the candidate wants to be the front runner. They want the most news coverage and continue to say, "If you elect me, I'll make it all better." They are diligent, constantly on guard and looking for every opportunity to share their goal to be president. Looking at the above passage, I believe Paul wants us to have the same desire in our quest for the Lord Jesus. We are told to push and carry out the will of God daily. This encourages me and it should you, too. We know the end of the story – Jesus wins!

I have told some of you about my new "hobby." For those of you who don't know, last summer someone gave us an old motor home – a 1986 Fleetwood. Every chance I get, I work on making our

RV road worthy. Joyce and I recently went to an RV show, looking at the window treatments. Crawling over furniture, we wanted to see how the valances were made. We have been diligent, focusing on a completion date and our goal – a trip!

Last night as we walked with our grandchildren to the car, they stopped in front of the covered motor home. My grandson, Preston (he just turned three), looked at his older sister, Macie, and said, "As soon as Papa is done, we are going camping in the mountains." I smiled and thought to myself, "Mountains... I'll be glad to just see it complete!" My grandkids are looking forward to the completion day.

We have a great year planned. I praise the Lord for a great staff and a wonderful board of directors. Thank you, dear friend, for your continual support – both financially and spiritually. May God continue to give you encouragement today and may this day be focused on our service to Him.

~ Larry George, President

NOTES FROM Missionary Families



Just a quick note to let you know that we love and appreciate you and miss you all terribly. Coming to Bostwana and having to set up home from scratch with limited funds has made us appreciate more the wonderful ministry that you have to missionaries. Thank you! We are slowly getting settled and are so excited to see our new church growing. God is good! We love you, *The Peacocke Family*

We appreciate all your hard work on our behalf. Siloam Homes has been an immense blessing to all of us. May God give you a great 2008 as you serve Him here. Love, *The Kramm Family*

I cannot begin to tell you how thankful we are that many years ago, there was a vision to see Siloam's doors open. Who knew God would have blessed you in so many ways? God put something within our hearts that when we walked into our house – we knew we were at home! The ministry here at SMH is pivotal in our lives and has a heavy bearing in our ministry that God is getting us ready for. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!!!

~ The Long Family



Two of our MK's make their own fun with a wagon and a hill.



Milton & Betty Wilder Join Us

Being a part of the ministry of Siloam Missionary Homes will be quite a change for Milton and Betty Wilder. I (Milton) have served as pastor of Hines Chapel, near Greensboro, NC for almost 37 years and Betty has served as Pastor's Secretary for the last 15 years. We are excited that the Lord has opened to us the opportunity to minister to the residents at Siloam Missionary Homes who have answered God's call to missionary service.

Both Betty and I were born and grew up in Lee County near Sanford, NC and received the Lord as our Savior at an early age. I accepted the Lord's call to the pastoral ministry just prior to entering college. In 1962, I graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, at which time Betty and I were married. I was ordained as a minister in 1966 following graduation from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, NC. Before coming to Hines Chapel in 1971, I served as pastor to churches in the North Carolina counties of Chatham, Franklin and Alamance. Betty and I have two daughters and six grandchildren.

One of the greatest needs that I have observed as a pastor is for all Christians to be committed to fulfilling the call of Christ, found in all four gospels and Acts, to take the gospel to the whole world. This is not optional for followers of Christ and every church should be involved in equipping, encouraging, sending and praying for missionaries.

I appreciate the ministry of Siloam Missionary Homes as an arm of the church acting to help fulfill this task and am thankful to become involved.

The missionaries living at Siloam Missionary Homes have responded to the call of Christ to go as His ambassadors and Betty and I both look forward to working with them to help them any way we can. For many years, I have had the privilege of meeting and getting to know many missionaries as friends. I have visited some of them at home and on the field here and overseas and have seen their faithfulness, commitment and perseverance, as well as their struggles and sometimes disappointments. Missionaries, like all of us as Christians, at times want someone with whom they can discuss their plans and problems and who will pray with them about their personal needs. The Lord has called me to a ministry of pastoral care to these missionaries and I ask for your prayers for wisdom and guidance as I endeavor to serve His servants.

Four New Members for 2008 Board of Directors

ROBERT ASHWORTH – Robert is a clinical pharmacist Alamance Regional Medical Center. He and his wife Lisa have been married for 17 years and have 3 children. A member of Harvest Baptist Church, he has served as deacon, director of the food pantry ministry and chairperson for the Global Outreach Committee. Robert has a true passion for missions and hopes to one day become a missionary. "Jesus gave His life for me so that I may live my life for Him."

GWEN DAVIS – Gwen is the married mother of two children. In the early 1990's God began to stir our hearts for missions. She has served on the missions committees for many years and have come to know and love many missionary families. In order to keep missionaries on

the field, we must take every opportunity to meet their personal needs. Now serving on the board at SMH will give me a chance to be a small part of ministering in this way. "u"

KEITH BURCH – Keith and his wife, Kim have three children and three grandchildren. Active members of New Covenant Fellowship, he is a SS teacher and has served as an Elder in the church. For the past 21 years Keith has been the general manager for a wholesale building products company. "I believe it will be a blessing to be a part of Siloam Homes. I have watched through the years the way that God has blessed this ministry, which is a picture of how God cares for his servants."

TONY KISER – Tony has been employed by Gold Toe Moretz for almost 20 years and his current position is Director of Production Planning.



Left to right: Robert Ashworth, Gwen Davis, Terrell Moore, Ray Soyars, Mike Rich, Larry & Joyce George, Keith Burch, Pastor David Jackson, Tony Kiser, Henry Edwards

Married to Becky for over 30 years with 3 children, and a member of Holly Hill Baptist Church, he has served as SS teacher, deacon, and leader of Baptist Men. He serves as a construction volunteer/leader each year for World Changers and NC Baptist Men Disaster Recovery. "Through volunteer missions at Siloam, I have come to love this ministry and believe it serves a major need for missionaries to relax and refuel their ministries."

❖ Christmas 2007 ❖

Christmas here at Siloam is always an exciting time. Many of the area churches have been so generous to the missionary families living here. As we do every year, the board of directors and missionaries gather for a time of fellowship and food. The evening was spent sharing each other's ministries and getting to know each other better.

Our special thanks to all who gave to make our Christmas a wonderful time! Another thing we do here at Siloam during Christmas is to host dinners for area church groups. One of our guests graciously sent us a poem to express her thanks for a great time.

It is not the food we received, although it was wonderful in taste and size

That warms our hearts completely and puts sparkle in our eyes

It was not the value of the food nor how it was cooked and served, nothing denied

It is something other than this that makes us feel warm inside.

It is knowing that it represents a love both deep and true

We see that in everything you say or do.

And what you carry in your heart and pass on to people every day

We want you to know that we love and thank you and want to tell you in this way

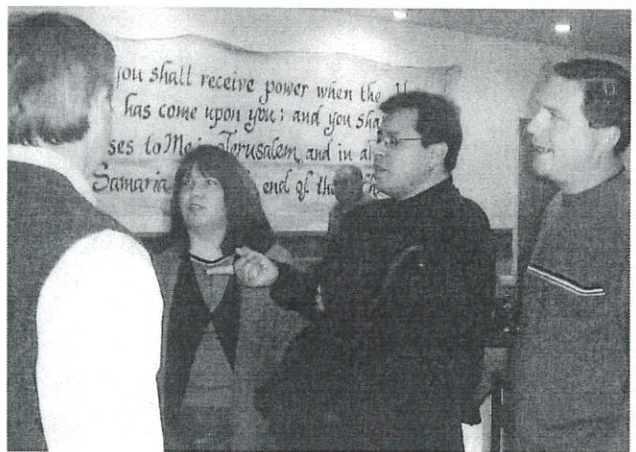
Because it is hard to express the things we really want to say.

Thank you for the delicious food, beautiful decorations, friendly service, warm atmosphere and Christian love. Sharing God's blessings everyone will remember the meal, because we all share His Love from above.

— Patsy Davis



The missionaries enjoy getting together and sharing their lives, their ministry and their burdens.



The missionaries got to "shop" through the gifts that were donated for their kids by Toys for Tots and Wayne Christian School 3rd grade class.



Youth Groups from Harvest Baptist, New Covenant Fellowship and Riverside Baptist joined together for a Super Bowl party at Siloam. Some of the missionary families joined in with the fun, food, fellowship, a "half time" of praise and worship, and a challenge from one of the youth pastors.

Notes from Supporters & Speed Bumps Readers

"God has blessed us richly and he will provide the fuel you need for this winter. May the good Lord smile all over you and the Siloam project."

— John & Nancy Seivers

"You can never, ever outgive the Lord! This month, my rent was dropped down, provision for food went up, my lab tests were well within normal limits, my truck is in good repair and once again I have everything I need. Giving to the Lord is not a bargain with God, it is a privileged duty to show Him how grateful we are for all He has done."

— Betty

Real People. Real Problems. Real Life.

I know it's not just me who walks into my church and see an unfamiliar face putting on the label microphone and wonder who this person is, where they are from and what they are going to tell us (*i.e. are they witty or dull?*). You automatically think they must be a perfect person with perfect children who can all sing and play instruments as mother plays an old song on the piano.

But who are these people, really? This is my favorite thing about Siloam Missionary Homes. I get to find out! I have gotten to know so many families here at Siloam who are real people. Their children aren't perfect, they have struggles about what is for dinner, where their kids will go to school, how expensive gas is, which place has the cheapest groceries, why on earth did the printer eat their paper and why don't the wipers work when it rains!!!

Real people. Real problems. Real life.

I have had the opportunity to share with these missionary moms about the good and the ugly of just being real people. We aren't any different that you are. We worry about what to wear on Sunday morning, will our kids behave in an unfamiliar class, and if we will say all the right things?

My challenge to you this year, is to get to know these people. They are wonderful friends of mine who I love to share my life with. Imagine, you may even learn a thing or two – and maybe you could clue us in on another bargain somewhere!

by Abbey Rich, Family Center Hostess
Mike and Abbey Rich, D. Rich

GIFT IN LOVING MEMORY

By Ken and Sandy Hopkins
in memory of Doris Hovis

By Ralph & Esther Cummings
in memory of Ham Wray

By Dot Dunn
in honor of Jim and Anna Murray

By Chris and Maria Crawford
in honor of Henry Edwards

By James and Connie Sasser in memory
of William David Jackson

By Mark and Paula Macha in memory
of William David Jackson



Dear Coffee Club Members,

One of the favorite things about my job at Siloam Missionary Homes is when I get to show a new family into the house they will be living in while staying here. In January, I got to do this two times! How fun was that! Lisa Long, one of the ladies who moved in, was so thrilled when she saw the beautiful house, and all of the dishes and furnishings. She said to me, "We don't deserve this! You just don't understand how much this means to us." I smiled as I replied, "Oh yes, I do!" Her comments reminded me of my own days as a missionary kid and living with family and friends while on furlough. Although each host was so gracious and did everything they could to make us feel welcomed and "part of the family," as I look back as an adult, I understand how much having a place of your own means. I am so thankful to the Lord for allowing me to experience what so many of our missionaries do, so that I can better minister to them.

Patrick Cline, a veteran missionary who has stayed with us on other furloughs, stopped by the office after settling into his home and said, "This is exactly what I needed!" Isn't God good?!

We are blessed to have some new coffee club members! Edna Louise Lane, Grover and Doris Davis, and Eric and Julie Fochr have joined our Coffee Club Family. Thanks so much to all of you who so faithfully give so these families can have a home!

God bless you.

Your "Coffee mate," *Joyce George*

MY LOVE GIFT: I would like to join the Coffee Club with a monthly pledge of

☐ \$15 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ Other \$ (Please send my Coffee Club cup.)

One Time Gift \$ _____

Please designate my one time gift for:

DONATION FOR (check appropriate box):

☐ Family Center ☐ Larry & Joyce George salary ☐ Mike & Abbey Rich salary

☐ General Fund ☐ Milton & Betty Wilder support

☐ (specify project) _____

Please make checks payable to **Siloam Missionary Homes**

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

All gifts are tax deductible and receipts will be mailed at year's end, unless otherwise requested.