

## Pastor's Notes

You may have been wondering why your Bits and Blessings was a little later than usual this time. It was because we wanted to be able to give you a report on our Mission Trip to Memphis that concluded on June 29th. It was an absolutely phenomenal trip! We had 38 church members participate over the course of a week. We traveled over 800 miles and feed over 400 people. If you missed our report service on June 30th then you really missed a blessing as several of our members shared about their experience this past week. I will give you a few highlights from each day.

### Church Without Doors (June 23rd):

The people there were amazed at how many of our people showed up (25 of our members). We helped set up pews (Home Depot buckets and 2x4's) for the people to sit on. There were a couple of the workers from Church without Doors that sang special music in addition to Hannah Styers and Bobby Hanna. Each of them did a marvelous job. I shared an object lesson sermon about the glove and at the end of the message - 2 ladies raised their hand about their need for salvation. One of our church members was able to share in more detail to one of the ladies. We fed somewhere around 70 or so people from the area. They were excited to receive a hot meal and cold coke on a hot day. The Lord blessed us with shade and a nice breeze on a hot day. It came a torrential downpour just two hours after we had left. Praise the Lord!

### Kirby Pines Retirement Home (June 24th):

We had thought that we were going to Kirby Pines to sing along with the residents there but when we arrived, we found out that they thought we were a choir and we were there to sing for them. So, several of us non-choir members stepped out of our comfort zones and tried to make a joyful noise to the Lord. The people there seemed to be blessed by the music. We were able to visit with one of our members who is a resident there and it was good to see him. They gave us a tour of the facility before we headed back.

### Boy's Ranch (June 25th):

This was the first time that my family had been back to the Ranch since leaving 6 years ago to come to Grand Junction. It was great to catch up with the staff there and serve the staff and the boys there. Some of our members worked on a gutter project while others worked on wood working projects. Several of our members worked in their commissary helping to put away food from a recent food drive. A few of our members worked in the horse barn mucking stalls. After we had finished for the morning, we provided a Chick - fil - a lunch for all the residents, staff, and our mission team. It was neat to interact with some of the residents as they worked alongside us. Once again, God provided the weather we needed for the day. It was hot but there was no rain.

### Block Party at Miracle BC (June 26th):

We went back to Miracle BC where we had done a weeklong children's camp 4 summers ago. It was good to catch up with my good friend Ronnie Johnson. We provided a block party celebration as they were finishing up one of their summer camps. We set - up games, bounce houses, and feed them hot dogs, chips, and snow cones. There were probably about 80 people who attended the block party. It was neat to see kids that we had worked with 4 years ago who were still connected to the church. The Lord blessed us again with good weather!

### Life Choices (June 27th):

It rained on this day, but we were able to make it there and back safely plus this was an inside activity. We helped sort money that they had collected from their Baby Bottle Challenge. It was encouraging to see the generosity of people who support this wonderful ministry. We also hung up baby clothes in the baby boutique. We were introduced to their outstanding staff and heard from the nurse who does the ultrasounds there about how powerful it is for expecting mothers to see their baby for the first time. She said that mothers seeing their baby for the first time is often the difference maker in them choosing life.

### Shepherd's Haven (June 28th):

We were able to be involved in Shepherd's Have Fun- Filled Friday. Typically at this Special Needs Adult Day Center they work on various pottery and woodworking activities throughout the week, but Fridays is their fun day. We joined them in singing several worship songs. They had a choice between game time or talent time. They chose talent time and we were blessed by the variety of talents God has blessed them with. At the close of our time there, they gathered and sang and signed a couple of worship songs for us. It truly blessed my heart to watch them worship with such passion and purity!

### Memphis Union Mission (June 29th):

Our last day was at the Memphis Union Mission where we led a worship service and then fed a meal for around 100 plus men and women. We were amazed at how clean and orderly everything was at the Mission. The crowd really enjoyed the worship service and were excited about the meal we had brought. It was an honor to be able to serve the meals to them. It was a wonderful way to wrap up an incredible week.

Neither time nor space would allow me to tell you everything that I saw and experienced this past week; so let me share a couple of thoughts. First - Thank you for praying for us and supporting us during this week. It was obvious that people were praying for us this week as this was the smoothest mission trip I have ever been a part of. Second - if you were not able to go - if given the chance to go in the future - take advantage of it!

Let me mention a couple of things that are taking place in the month of July that I want you to know about.

**July 7th** - we will have our patriotic service during our morning service. We look forward to celebrating the freedom that God has so graciously given us in this country.

**July 28th** - we will have a Hot Dog Fellowship/Evening Worship Service. We will meet in the fellowship hall to enjoy hot dogs with all the trimmings along with a great time of worship. We have done one of these a few months ago and it was enjoyed by all, so mark your calendars and plan on being here.

God bless you,

Bro. Troy

### **May Report**

Average Attendance in Sunday School	54
Average Offering	\$5,559.75