



Faithful Servant

May 2012

I Drive the Truck ... by Bill Boone



Cloud by Day, Fire by Night

Recently, my quiet time has been reading in the book of Exodus. When Moses led God's people out of Egypt, God promised to show them the way. God led them with a pillar of smoke by day and a pillar of fire by night. Does God go before you when you head out on a journey? We experience this all the time.

Since we started Servant's Heart over eight and half years ago, God has continued to supply our needs. Several weeks ago, one of my customers gave us some scrap metal to sell so we could buy canned goods. We had four buckets of different materials to sell. Cross-roads Recycling put the money in an envelope for us, and I just added it to the grocery cash bag. We have been trying to stretch our grocery money budgeted for 1 week to 2 weeks. So, Dan Boomershine and I made out our shopping list and off to Aldi's we went. It took us about 1 hour to fill four grocery carts. We had them really loaded. As we put the groceries on the checkout belt, we usually get questions from others waiting in line to pay:

"Are you buying for a pantry?"

"Where is the pantry located?"

"It looks like you have a lot. Could we give you some cash to help buy the groceries?"

Every question was a divine appointment to share God's provision for us with the other folks in line. As the cashier totaled things up, he said, "That will be \$799.98."

One hundred, two hundred, then up to seven hundred. Now I am into the smaller bills. Seven-fifty, seven-sixty, seven-seventy, seven-eighty. I looked at the amount I had written on the front of the bag: \$776. I kept going: Seven-ninety, ninety-one, ninety-two, ninety-three, ninety-four, finally I got to ninety-nine.

Scripture of the Quarter

And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so as to go by day and night.

—Exodus 13:21 (NKJV)

The cashier said, "Ninety-eight cents."

I handed him one more dollar. I had one dollar left. The cashier's reaction was priceless.

"Whoa!"

I told him, "Isn't God good?"

He just smiled.

I told Dan I felt like the Bailey family from *It's a Wonderful Life*. Dan as well as the cashier and a pair of brothers, to whom we were able to give a ride home and pray with, got to see God provide that day.

You see, when God sends you out on His mission, He not only will provide what you need to accomplish the mission, but also use you to minister to those around you who are watching.

And it's why I love to drive the truck!

www.servantsheartofindy.org

April 28 Community Fundraiser St. Francis Medical Group raised \$1,426.



Johnnie and Luke Harlow have their faces painted.



L-R: Dr. Isaac Myers, President, SFMG;
Mary Benjamin, Practice Operations Executive, SFMG;
Bill Boone; Nancy Deem



L-R: Debbie Day, Jana Everett, Sherri Glaser, Sue Curtis, Kathy Sinclair, Suzanne Davis, Cathy Brenner



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God's Provisions

February: Chick-fil-A fundraiser netted \$141.37
March 17-20: Uno Chicago Grill fundraiser \$263.62
Spring Food Collections by Boy Scout Troop #11, George Group, JFW, Kroger, LifePoint Church, Indian Creek, Grace Evangelical, Beech Grove Middle School, Second Helpings, St. Francis Medical Group, Southwood Baptist, and Curves of Southport collected a total weight of 8,135 pounds of food.

We continue to be blessed by trays of bread from Network Global Logistics and perishable/nonperishable food from Midwest Food Bank.

1st Quarter 2012 Stats

| | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 141... First-timers | 649... Return visits |
| 31... Out of Area | 2,352... Lives touched |



Help the USPS Stamp Out Hunger in 2012

May 12 marks the U.S. Postal Service's 2012 Stamp Out Hunger event, and Servant's Heart is once again both participating and benefitting. That day, postal clients leave bags of nonperishable food items at the base of their mailboxes for pickup by postal carriers. Donations collected by the Beech Grove and Garfield branches of the post office go directly to Servant's Heart. Servant's Heart needs several volunteers throughout the day.

"We're going to have two shifts at each post office, and we need about 15 people at each post office for each shift," explains Servant's Heart chairman Bill Boone. "We'll also have a third shift in the evening, actually at the Servant's Heart pantry, to unload the truck. We need six people for that work."

Shift times are 10 a.m.–12:30 p.m., and 12:30–3:00 p.m., at the Beech Grove post office; at Garfield Park, times are noon–3:00 p.m., and 3:00–6:00 p.m.; and 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. at the Servant's Heart pantry.

Last year's Stamp Out Hunger event netted 14,287 pounds of nonperishable food for Servant's Heart on the actual event day, and an additional 525 pounds at a later date, picked up at the downtown post office. Bill says that amount lasts only about 6 weeks and adds that the number of people needing assistance continues to spiral.

"Each week, each family we help gets eight canned goods, so you can understand how quickly we go through our inventory of canned vegetables."

To volunteer, go to info@servantsheartofindy.org and complete the volunteer form, including the event for which you want to volunteer and the shift you are interested in. You also can call the pantry's primary phone number, **788-9433**. If no one answers, leave voice mail, including your name and phone number. Someone will call you back.

Servant's Heart needs and welcomes contributions of nonperishable, nonexpired food items, laundry detergent, personal hygiene items, and more.

Hearing God's Call ... by Debbye Butler

There's a saying that goes something like this: "You have never really lived until you have done something for someone who can never repay you."

Jeff and Connie Davis are living. *Really* living.

Jeff, a plumber for 43 years, and Connie, a realtor for 24 years, have volunteered for a wide array of secular and faith-based organizations throughout their marriage. Among their past stints, Jeff has donated his plumbing skills to Triton Schools and Brookeville Road Community Church; Connie has served as a youth group volunteer at her former church and as a past PTO president when the couple's children were in school. Through MIBOR (Metropolitan Board of Realtors), she also has helped homeless people get established in rentals through the Bonner Center located at 10th and Jefferson streets in Indianapolis.

Today, Jeff and Connie team up at Servant's Heart. Connie, who has been part of Servant's Heart since its inception nearly 9 years ago, works in the office, checking clients on the third Thursday of every month. Jeff primarily helps clients check out—bagging their goods and helping carry sacks for clients who need that extra assistance.

Before Jeff joined the ministry, there was no mistaking the joy and gratification that exuded from his wife's face as she came home each week from the pantry—and her joy was contagious. He became part of the ministry 6 years after his wife started working at the pantry.

"Connie would work at Servant's Heart and come home, satisfied and full of joy," he remembers. "I just didn't understand the reward. But now, this feeling of serving those in need has been such a satisfying feeling—a feeling coming from the Lord."

Connie adds, "I can't explain why working [at Servant's Heart] and helping people lifts my spirit, but we have people who are so thankful that we are there. The most satisfying part of

working at Servant's Heart is being able to show the love and generosity of Christ. You can't help but be thankful for what the Lord has done for you. Jeff and I are continually commenting on how the Lord brought two inner-city kids together and blessed us in our marriage."

Connie recalls the first time she set eyes on the love of her life—at a party.

"I was 16 and in high school, and Jeff was 20. Jeff was standing in the kitchen watching the adults play cards. I asked about him and was told "he's engaged," which he was not. I of course continued to ask until it got around to him that I was interested. We had our first date June 17, 1972. We were pretty inseparable after that. I did

have to keep Jeff's age a secret from my dad because of the age difference. We got married 3 years later in April 1975. We both feel God has truly blessed us and watched over us when we were so young, but He had a plan for our lives and after 37 years, the love continues to grow due to Him."

The couple, both of whom graduated from Tech High School, resides in the northwest corner of Shelby

County. They have two grown children, Kelly and Ethan.

When the Davises aren't working or volunteering, Jeff and Connie enjoy antiquing and fixing up old houses. They also have been avid Scrabble players for nearly their entire marriage.

"We kept records of highest word score and highest game score in the lid of the box," Connie recalls. "Looking back, we cannot seem to get back to those high scores yet. We are pretty evenly matched and are competitive. The last couple of games, I have really knocked his socks off, but I'm sure he will come back and get me!"

Words are important to them—but it is *The Word* that is central to their lives. Connie uses Prov. 3:6 to guide her: "In all thy ways, acknowledge Him and He will direct thy path." Jeff cites Matt. 19:26 as his favorite verse: "With God, all things are possible." Indeed.

