



# Faithful Servant

Summer 2013

## I Drive the Truck ... by Bill Boone

### A classmate, a fresh start, and a chair

**F**or the past year, I have been attending Crossroads Bible College. I have met some wonderful folks. One of my classmates is involved with a ministry called Beyond the Bridges. His ministry helps ex-cons get reestablished into society after getting out of prison. I have had the privilege of helping with several of these families to get them furniture for their homes.

After one gal had picked out some furniture, she had no way to get it to her house. I offered to deliver it to her new home. We had help to load the furniture at the pantry, but we needed help on the other end to unload the furniture once we got to her house. I asked her if she could round up some help. So she made a few phone calls for the help to meet us there. Her house is just north of Michigan Street. As I was talking with one of the young men, he shared that he had a birthday that week. I asked him how old he was.

He said, "I have made it to 24."

I thought his choice of words was odd.

"Made it?" I asked him why his 24th birthday was so significant. He shared that most of his friends hadn't lived to see their 24th birthday. Wow! That hit me like a ton of bricks, especially with seeing the violence this summer in the inner city.

A couple of months ago, a gal come who had been in a domestic violence situation came to the pantry. Her spirit was broken. We assured her that we were there to help her anyway we could. While she was shopping at the pantry, she shared that her ex had even kept all her clothes and she didn't have many clothes to wear for work. So she was able to find some clothes to get her started.

As she was checking out, she asked if we had any furniture. Andy and I took her over to the warehouse and showed her the furniture we had. She selected a few things and we delivered them the following Saturday. When we got to her house, it was completely empty. I asked her why she didn't select more things. She responded by sharing she was embarrassed to ask for more. I asked her what else she



needed. She said, "If it's not too much trouble, could I get a couch, table and chairs, washer, dryer, and a bed?"

I told her I knew of a couch that we had coming, but as to the rest of her requests, I didn't have them yet. Andy and I

prayed with Rhonda and her sister for the items she needed before we left her house. God provided everything we prayed for that day. As we were loading the things at the pantry to take to her, I still didn't have a bed. Just before I closed the doors to the trailer, I got a call from Nita that she had a bed. Could we use it? I picked it up on the way to Rhonda's house. When we showed her what we brought, tears flowed down her cheek because she just wasn't used to people helping her. Before we left, we prayed again with her, thanking God for what had been provided.

Our last story involves a special chair donated by our newsletter editor. Debbye shared with me that this chair had been in her mom's bedroom. Debbye and her family members had prayed and cried in this chair during her mom's final days on this earth. It was very hard for Debbye to donate that chair, but she decided it was time. Kyle and I were very careful when we moved the chair into the trailer. I just knew that God would honor Debbye's memories of her mom by placing this chair in a special home.

The very next week, Tori and Chris came to pick out some furniture for their house. The chair matched perfectly with a loveseat that we already had in the warehouse. When I delivered the couch and chair to Tori's house, she set the chair right beside the fireplace. Tori was so happy that she said, "Now I feel that my house is complete."

The theme verse I chose for this issue is Gal. 6:9-10. I take it to heart because moving furniture to dangerous places and homes with nothing is hard work, but when you are being the hands and feet of Jesus, the feeling of joy is priceless.

I just love driving the truck for Jesus.

## January–June Stats

201 First-timers  
1,442 Return visits  
60 Out of Area  
4,945 Lives touched

## 2013

### Prayer Requests

God's guidance of the ministry  
Share the Gospel with clients  
Expand financial support

### Volunteer Base Needs

Daily Operations: Pantry  
Workers and Team Leaders

### Additional Opportunities

Office, Warehouse, Grocery  
Procurement, Special Events

### New Board Members

Members-at-Large  
Volunteer Coordinator  
Grant Writer  
Fundraiser Coordinator  
Communications Director

### Wishes

A building of our own  
Walk-in cooler  
Develop Sunday evening  
service

## Servant's Heart of Indy, Inc.

5602 Elmwood Ave., Ste. 212

P. O. Box 805

Indianapolis, IN 46107

Phone: 317.788.9433

Editor: Debbye Butler

Webmaster: Gary McCabe

E-mail:

info@servantsheartofindy.org

Find us on Facebook,  
"Like" us, and "Share" our  
inspirational Page today!

## Scripture of the Quarter

*Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary. So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith.*

— Gal. 6: 9-10 (NASB)

## Praises & Provisions

### Grocery Team Update

We have been blessed with food donations this year. From January through June 2013, we received more than 24,350 pounds of food. Organizations, churches, businesses and groups that have contributed to our mission are listed below:

Aldi's, 412 lbs.; Kroger, 312 lbs.; Jones Beverage, 810 lbs.; Indian Creek Church, 5,166 lbs.; University of Indianapolis, 296 lbs.; LifePoint Church, 4,566 lbs.; Boy Scouts, 387 lbs.; Noah's Ark Preschool (Grace Evangelical Church), 100 lbs.; U.S. Postal Service (Stamp Out Hunger food drive), 11,782 lbs.; Franklin Township Soccer Club, 523 lbs.

In addition, Southwood Baptist Church and the folks at the Perry Township Government Center have donated paper products, including toilet paper, paper towels, napkins, and miscellaneous other products for our clients' use. We also began partnering with Gleaners in February. The availability of our basic products at wholesale pricing has enabled us to stretch our donated funds and ensure our shelves are adequately stocked.

We need the continued support from our past and present contributing organizations, but we also need to be promoting additional groups to hold future food drives. We are stocked at the moment, but soon our shelves will become lean again. Anyone who may have insight about a group or organization that would be interested in holding a food drive in the August through October time frame, please contact Dan Boomershine (dboomershine@servantsheartofindy.org) or Bill Boone (servantwtb@yahoo.com or 501-0281). The pantry's phone number is 317-788-9433.

Also, we are looking for additional help on the grocery team. Anyone who would be willing to pick up food from the food bank on Monday and/or Wednesday mornings, make bread runs on Thursday afternoons, or would just like to ride along and help with loading and unloading the truck and restocking the shelves in the pantry, we would greatly appreciate your participation. If you are interested in the opportunity to serve, contact Dan Boomershine.



*Volunteers Making an Impact  
with a Servant's Heart*

# Hearing God's Call ... by Debbye Butler

**B**ut as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord (Josh. 24:14; NIV) is a live-out-loud scripture for the four-member Payne family. Andy, Karen, Alex and Jake all volunteer at Servant's Heart, a ministry they were drawn to after Andy and Karen worked at the 2012 Turkey Drive-Thru.

The seed was planted at Andy's men's Bible study. "I was convicted by the Holy Spirit that I needed to be involved with some sort of ministry that would allow me to show the love of Jesus Christ to others," he notes. Andy and Karen met Bill and Paula Boone in September last year, when they attended a fundraising euchre party for the ministry.

"We were looking for a way to get involved with a ministry, and Servant's Heart was what God placed before us," Andy recalls.

Thursdays are a real "family affair" for the Paynes. Andy stocks shelves and helps clients load their food in their vehicles. Fourteen-year-old Jake also does some heavy lifting on Thursday evenings at the pantry, and college student Alex works at the pantry in between his studies at the Indiana University Kelley School of Business, Indianapolis, from where the honors program student will graduate in 2015 with a degree in Business & Human Resources Management. Karen bags groceries, unloads carts and assists clients while they shop.

"I like to encourage other people when I can," Karen says. "I am humbled each week that I work. I have had many people tell me, as I have taken them through the pantry, the stories that brought them there. Many of them are ashamed that they have to ask for help. I always assure them that many of us, at some point in our lives, may have to ask for help."

One of the most touching encounters she has had as a volunteer is realizing how many women are raising their grandchildren.

"One lady in particular who came was raising seven of her grandchildren. She was so fragile and tiny and had a few of the children tagging along with her that night. One of the girls loves to read and left with quite a few books that night. She also took a copy of the Bible with her. I feel so blessed to be able to see wonderful things happening each time I go to serve."

Ministry work stretches beyond the average nine hours a week that Andy, Karen and Jake work on Thursday evenings. Andy is a board member, and he oversees the ministry's Facebook Page, updates the statistics regarding the number of families served each week, helps with food drives, and lends his muscles when chairperson Bill Boone drives the truck to pick up or drop off furniture donations, which Andy describes as "one of Bill's favorite things to do."

Andy says it doesn't matter whether it's with the volunteer staff or the clients, as long as he gets to help other people. "So many times, we become so wrapped up in our own little world that we forget that there are other people who need our help," he comments. "Servant's Heart has opened my eyes to see people that I am able to share time with, and in some cases, pray with."



**Left to right: Andy, Karen, Jake and Alex Payne**

Away from their vocations and volunteer stints (Andy is a director of IT at ProLiance Energy, and Karen works with special-needs preschoolers), the Paynes engage in a variety of activities that rejuvenate them. For Andy, that translates into relaxing in their pool or golfing. Karen is an avid gardener and bird-watcher (especially hummingbirds). Jake likes to hang out with his mom, dad and brother, as well as fish, golf, swim and ride his minibike. Alex enjoys watching hockey, playing video games, and learning all sorts of technology.

"I am so very thankful that my children have decided to get involved," Andy comments. "So many times, our kids live off of their parents' faith. In this case, my kids decided on their own that they want to make a difference and help others. Alex helped me deliver turkey dinners the day after the Turkey Drive-Thru. He was able to see that what Servant's Heart does is truly helping make a difference in people's lives. When I think of my boys, I am reminded of Proverbs 22:6: 'Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.'"

The family worships at Indian Creek Christian Church, where they have been members since 1991. Today, they live in New Palestine, but Andy and Karen both grew up in Beech Grove — home of a fulfilling ministry that has brought them full circle to their childhood roots . . . and more importantly, blessed them with a place to share their servants' hearts.