



The Happy Church August 2018 Newsletter

July Highlights

Project Happy Soles Ministry

This year's Happy Soles shoe ministry presented many challenges. The shoe store in Jackson closed and so we had to figure out a way to transport all the kids 32 miles to the shoe store in Hazard, KY. We were very blessed to have Oakdale Christian Academy provide a school bus, and Churches In Mission (CIM) provide a school bus. The first day of Happy Soles, 121 kids got their shoes. Before it is all over, it will most likely be about 140 kids getting free shoes for school. Here is a link to a video of this years event <https://vimeo.com/283290801>



Happy Kids Getting New Shoes

Kid's City

Thanks to the response in prayer from last month's request, we now have one additional driver. Please continue to pray as we could easily use a couple more van drivers and at least one more 15 passenger van. Our attendance has really picked up again since the Kids started back to school on Aug 8th. On Aug 9th, we had 81 kids attending. All the improvements to our playground continue to be a big hit. The kids run to the playground as soon as the van drops them off. They love being outside and we use our picnic shelter a lot during the

summer. We are so thankful for all these improvements.

Howie's Ministry

Howie travelled to New Mexico from July 12-21 to minister to the Navajo Nation. They brought a semi-truck full of food which was distributed in the community. They put on a pancake breakfast at the senior center. They also spend time praying and sharing the Gospel in the community. They were able to do the dry walling and painting needed to finish up the dorms for visiting mission groups. Howie raises all the money necessary for these trips and for his monthly visits to the Happy Church to provide breakfast for the kids. His ministry is administered through the Happy Church.



Howie Serving Breakfast at Community Center

Short Term Mission Teams

We had three short term mission teams come to the Happy Church in July. The first team was from the First Church of God in Chambersburg, PA. This is the church that Jason and Autumn Ott attend. Jason and Autumn are still raising support to join the Happy Church staff.



Camo Golf Cart on a Tree-Trimming Mission

This was an exploratory trip and only two people came with hopes of being able to bring more people next



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year. They helped trim trees, did some painting and helped with maintenance needs around the church.

The next work team was from Chestnut Grove and Clearfield Churches from Maryland. They worked diligently and were able to accomplish many projects at the Clayhole Campus. They also put on a great VBS and helped with our annual shoe giveaway for the Happy Kids. They also remodeled the Sunday School building



Work in Progress

Work Completed

including installing new thermopane windows, a new window air conditioner, as well as painted and decorated the room. In the end, it really looked great.



Work Team Choir at Clayhole Campus

At the same time that Chestnut Grove and Clearfield Churches were working at the Clayhole Campus, Horizon Community Church from Cincinnati came down with a group of 50 including middle and high school kids. They brought down around 150 back packs full of school supplies for the children and distributed them at



Happy Kid's Getting Their Bookbags

the kid's city and teen night. They also ran kid's city and teen night for us. Horizon was a major player in the shoe giveaway. It was really a whirlwind visit for them. They completed many projects around the campus.

Happy Campers

We sent kids to both Camp Nathanael and Bethel Camp in July. It was a reward for memorizing 35 scripture and going through 7 work books.

Teen Update

Our teen attendance remains high and we were excited to lead a young lady to Christ this month. It is encouraging to see the teens inviting their friends to come to the group.



Happy Teens and Staff Arriving At Momentum

The highlight for the teens this summer was to attend the Momentum national youth conference in Indiana. We had 17 teens and 4 adults attend the conference. In listening to the testimonies from the teens that attended, this conference made a lasting impact on their life. The conference featured many world class speakers and worship bands. Interestingly enough, many of the teens said that the late evening sessions when they got together in smaller discussion groups, was one of the highlights of the trip. As part of the conference, they went out to a nursing home to minister to the residents. This was a special moment for some of the kids. Check out the video at:

<https://vimeo.com/282190436>



Happy Teens Ministering at a Nursing Home



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Both Cody and Amber have finished their summer internships. They both feel it was an invaluable experience and we hope to continue this program in the future.

Clayhole Campus News

Randy and Janet continue to make new connections in the Clayhole community. This is a part of the county where many of the people live in deep hollows (hollers in the local vernacular) and are very distrustful of strangers, especially those who are not part of the local family tree. Sitting around Hardee's in the morning, I can't tell you how many times I heard the old timer start talking about someone and then go through all the brothers, sisters and cousins of that person. Being from around here is important. At the Jackson campus, we have broken down some of those barriers and Randy and Janet are working hard at doing the same at the Clayhole campus.

The big news at Clayhole is VBS. The three-day VBS averaged 35 kids. We would have been happy to see 10, but 35 was beyond our wildest dreams. The kids loved all the Bible stories and the games that went on.



Happy Kids enjoying VBS at Clayhole

The dilemma now is the timing of when to start the Clayhole Kid's City. We don't want to lose the momentum from the VBS, but are short on days of the week to put it on our schedule. The staff can only stretch so thin. When Janet asked the kids during the VBS, if they wanted to do this every week, they all said yes. One of the limiting factors is the lack of climate control in the gym. Because of how hot the gym gets in

the summer and how cold it gets in the winter, it is really important to get some heat pumps installed to be able to use the facility all year round. We also need a reliable 15 passenger van to pick the kids up since most of the parents won't bring them.

Late breaking news. It looks like the majority of the funds for the heating and air at the Clayhole campus will be provided by some very generous folks in Ohio. The Labor will be provided by a group from Oak Grove Wesleyan Church in Montpelier, VA. God is so good.

Thrift Store

The thrift store showed an increase in sales last month as lots of donations came in. We are so thankful to all that helped with donations. We are continuing to pray for 12 churches to sign up for one month a year to take up collections of gently used clothing, household items, toys, furniture, and working appliances for the thrift store. We can either pick up these items or you can make an adventure of it and bring them to the Happy Church yourself. Individuals can drop off donations at Humongous Bill's Carpets at 4053 Dixie Highway in Fairfield, OH. There is an area reserved for Happy Church donations.

See Praises, Prayer Requests and needs on Next Page.



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Prayer Requests, Praises and Needs

- Praise as all the \$9000 repair costs to our recently acquired refrigerated truck has been received. Pray that any remaining bugs can be worked out. We will be using the truck to pick up donated refrigerated foods and thrift store items.
- The compressor for the Barn just failed. It will cost about \$2000 to repair it. Pray that donations come in to cover the costs.
- We are praying for an additional 12 or 15 passenger van and more drivers to pick up and drop off kids.
- Pray the Ott family can sell their house in PA and raise support to join us in the ministry full-time. This is especially important to get them on board as John and Chris are having an increasingly hard time keeping up with the pace of the ministry.
- Pray that funding comes to install a heat pump in the gym at the Clayhole Campus. This will enable the gym to be used year around. (Answered)
- Pray for John as he is trying to find a medication that controls his partial epilepsy without a lot of negative side effects.
- Praise for the average attendance of 35 for the Clayhole VBS in July.
- Pray for wisdom in starting up a Kid's City program at Happy Church Clayhole.
- Praise for the positive changes that are occurring at the Clayhole Campus.
- Pray for Randy to effectively transition the church to the Happy Church Model.
- Continue to pray for our teens. Pray for their spiritual growth and a hedge of protection around them as many live in very difficult circumstances.
- Praise for the Teen who came to Christ at Teen Night. Pray for a hedge of protection around her.
- Pray for our volunteers and praise for our donors that help make the Happy Church Ministry possible
- Pray for the Happy Kids. Many have very difficult living conditions.
- Praise for Tiffany, Pastor Mike's youngest daughter. Pray her Nashville recording which will be released shortly, will be favorably received and would be able to minister to many hurting people.
- Pray for 12 churches to sign up to supply our thrift store one month each year.