



# The Happy Church July 2018 Newsletter

## June Highlights

### Project Happy Soles Ministry

The Happy Soles scholarship is looking forward to helping students once again in the fall semester. This fall Abby Howard will be a Junior and her brother Austin will be a senior. Tiffany Tabor will be starting at Morehead Stated University, as well as Sierra Ott. Sierra is the daughter of Jason and Autumn Ott who are raising support to join us full time at the Happy Church. Connie will be reviewing other students who will be entering college this fall.

Howie travelled to New Mexico in June to help prepare for his July 12-21 mission trip. He reports that he doesn't know why he worries so much about getting things done, as the Lord always is one step ahead of him. He has been finishing up two dormitories that can be used by short term mission teams. One of the biggest needs was for an electrician. Lo and behold, an electrician showed up on a short term mission team while he was there and he was able to finish up 90% of the wiring. They were also able to bury a water tank and to hang some doors. Howie will be returning to the Navajo Nation later in July to finish things up. Howie raises all the money necessary for the trips and Howie's ministry is administered through the Happy Church.



*A water tank getting installed in New Mexico*

### Kid's City

Attendance for Kid's City has dropped off as normal during the summer months but remains steady. In May, we were scrambling to get enough vans and drivers to pick them up and take them home again. One of our van drivers had to make two runs to pick up all the kids

on his route. To get them all home, we used a combination of the kitchen volunteers and some of the staff using their POVs. We are praying for an additional van and more drivers to pick up and drop off kids. We continue using the outdoor picnic shelter whenever the weather permits. The kids really love being outside.

### Short Term Mission Teams

We had three short term mission teams come to the Happy Church in June. The first team was from Centerville Grace in Ohio who were on campus from June 6<sup>th</sup> to the 9<sup>th</sup>. The team consisted of mostly teens. They were able to get a lot of things done around the campus and knocked a bunch of items off of the to do list. They also assisted with the kid's night and teen night. For teen night, there was a joint worship team made up of teens from both churches. They really did a great job of playing together and we had a memorable worship time. Roy Sherwood, their youth pastor, provided a challenging message for the teens.



*Centerville Grace and Happy Church Worship Team*

An advance team from River Hills Christian Church came rolling into town on June 11<sup>th</sup>, with the rest of the team coming in June 13<sup>th</sup> and staying through the 16<sup>th</sup>. The first thing they did was to start setting up scaffolding on the side of the church. This was one of the most ambitious teams we have had in a while. They were able to completely paint all of the brick on the building.



*Work in Progress*



*Work Completed*



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The painting was only a small part of their agenda. They were able to get a vendor in Ohio to give them a terrific price on some playground equipment for our church. If you have ever been around the Happy Church when the vans unload, then you know the first thing they run to is the swings. Well now they have a whole lot more to run too. They also installed a permanent outdoor Volleyball court as well as tether ball. For Kid City,



*New Playground Equipment Elevated Merry-go-round*



*New In-ground Volleyball*

*Drone View of the Kids*



*Red River Gorge Teen Trip RHCC Mission Team they planned games for the kids. RHCC also took our kids hiking at the Red River Gorge and then fed them pizza at the famous Miguel Restaurant. The kids had a ball.*

## Happy Campers

We sent eight grade school kids to Bethel Camp in June. Nate, one of our teens was a counselor this year.



*Kid's Enjoying Bethel Camp*



*Teens at Bethel Camp*

Three teens went to high school camp at Bethel Camp in June. As always there was a good mix of fun, crafts along with a strong gospel presentation. Kids have to memorize 35 scripture verses and fill out seven booklets of Biblical teaching in order to qualify to go to camp for free. We also sent one teen to Camp Nathael.

## Teen Update

Our teen internships have been doing really well. Cody Fouts has been working at Action Computer Services in Florence, KY. He has been learning how a computer services company works from repairs to customer service. His biggest increase in knowledge has been in the area of computer networks. This will help him as he begins his second year of studies at Hazard Community and Technical College in the fall. Amber Shepherd has been working with Mr. Godwrench in West Chester Ohio. She has been learning what it takes to be a full-time auto mechanic for a living. Amber will be a senior at Wolf County High next year and is part of the automotive program there. Both of them have been blessed with godly host families to stay with. Living with a host family outside of eastern Kentucky is also a very important part of the experience.

The teens are really looking forward to going to the Momentum Youth Conference in July. They held a combo car wash and bake sale in front of Wal-Mart to raise money for the trip. Friday teen night has been varied as we have been having joint teen nights with the visiting groups. We really love seeing how they interact with one another as many friendships have developed through these interactions. Attendance continues to be very strong.



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*Advertising for Teen Conference Fundraiser*

## Clayhole Campus News

The first open gym for Clayhole started on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. In addition to the open gym, hot dogs and drinks were provided to all who came. This is a great outreach tool and it is hoped that this will be able to help to build relationships with the area youth.

Community Christian Church, where Randy used to be pastor, came down on a short-term mission trip on June 22<sup>nd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>. They were able to paint and remodel the bathrooms in the church and the gym. They also installed a new water pump in the gym, so that water could once again work in the kitchen and the bathroom. They also put a lot of paint on the walls in multiple rooms. It is really starting to give the church a fresh new look.



*Happy Kids enjoying Sunshine VBS*

Sonrise Ministry from Cincinnati put on a joint VBS for both the Jackson and the Clayhole campuses on June 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. They also assisted with some work

projects around the campuses. The VBS was held at the Clayhole campus to help generate some excitement in the area that something new was going on at the church. Ten children indicated a desire to know Christ and to follow him during the VBS.

## Thrift Store

Last month I wrote about how our thrift store was struggling to have enough items to keep the doors open two days each month. Well the flood gates opened in June and we received more items than we had room to store. 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.

## Prayer Requests, Praises and Needs

- Praise as most of 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 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.
- Pray for John as he is trying to find a medication that controls his partial epilepsy without a lot of negative side effects.
- Praise as Randy's new contacts seem to be greatly helping him. Continue to pray for him as he gets treatment for a degenerative eye condition.
- Praise for the positive changes that are occurring at the Clayhole Campus.



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- 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.
- 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.