



# The Happy Church April 2020 Newsletter

## March Highlights

### Happy Soles Ministry

Things slowed down around here in March with all the Covid-19 issues. It's been widely reported that the virus has been very disruptive to the financial situation in many families. To continue providing food baskets to the local community and to stay safe, we had to be a little creative. When folks request a food basket, we put them on the side porch. They drive by to pick it up. We have had to deliver for a couple of families that don't have transportation. Due to the health risks, we have also decided to delay delivery of Easter food baskets. Every year, a group from the Ohio Christian Academy comes down and takes care of the baskets. Obviously, this year the trip is canceled. However, they did provide some funds for the baskets. This left us with the dilemma of what to do. We decided that, due to the health risks, we would delay the baskets until a later time and pray that the rest of the finances come in. Our seasonal food baskets normally cost around \$3,600 for 120 (approximately \$30 per basket), depending on sales in grocery stores.

### Corvid-19 Ministry Changes

The Happy Church cancelled services the first week that the governor requested all churches to do so. This included all children's and teen ministries as well. It was fortunate for us that Mike's son, Philip, was around to help when the governor's order came down. Philip is an expert on audio/visual issues. He and Mike were able to set up hardware and software enabling the Sunday service to be live on Facebook. At first, we were using our teens to do music for the service. We then decided that this also posed a risk to all involved and decided to quit using them for now. The Sunday online service starts at 11AM but is available to view anytime. Tiffany was home when the travel ban was ordered and works together with Mike for the worship service. To try to keep in contact with church

family, we are doing 5-10minute devotionals every day. Devotionals are being rotated between Randy, Jason, and John, with Mike filling in as needed. Mike does the Sunday service.

Breathitt County School buses are delivering breakfasts and lunches to all students that request it. I am sure this is very helpful for many of them. Students are on non-traditional instruction through May 1<sup>st</sup>. This has been interesting for both the Tabor and Jacobson families, as they each have a foster son to help tutor. The boys did not come from families where academic excellence is a big priority, so it has been an uphill battle to get them to excel.

In the picture below, John is careful to keep a six-foot separation from everyone, except the fish. Nathaniel loves fishing, so John takes him fishing as a reward for his hard work at school. It is a tough duty, but someone must do it. 😊



*John Working Hard at Happy Lake*



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## Prayer Requests, Praises, and Needs

- Praise that Connie has recovered very nicely from her broken kneecap. Hopefully, it will be healthy enough to give Mike a kick in the seat when he needs it. 😊
- Continue to pray for the Ott family to sell their house in PA. During this difficult time, selling a house is going to be quite a challenge.
- Continue to pray for all of our Happy Church kids. Pray that they stay safe from the virus and safe while being home all day, every day.
- Pray for the right people to come and help finish the Clayhole building project.
- Continue to pray for Randy's eyesight. He is waiting to pick up his contacts. The office is closed until after the governor lifts the restrictions.
- Pray for the Tabor and Jacobson families as they work.
- Pray for our donors that help make the Happy Church Ministry possible.
- Pray as we plan for our summer mission teams. Currently, we are uncertain if this will be possible.
- Pray for our students who must study from home. Not all of them have internet to do their work.
- Pray for wisdom as to when the Easter food baskets can be safely delivered.
- Pray for the health of the church staff and church family. John and Chris are especially high risk due to their age and underlying conditions.

## Donations

- Centerville GBC is now managing the books for the Happy Church. Anyone mailing in donations should send them to:

The Happy Church  
410 E. Social Row Rd.  
Centerville, OH 45458

[www.thehappychurch.org/donate](http://www.thehappychurch.org/donate)