

Dear, Friends.

Thank you for continuing to pray for our ministry here in New Orleans. I thought that it was time for an update. So here goes.

We are seeing some growth on Sundays. Some young adults have recently joined and others are visiting. I believe that a lot of this has to do with our new women's ministry and the fact that our children's Sunday School classes are up and going. I'm thankful to my wife Shannon and a few of the other ladies for the hard work they have done to make this happen.

We are also trying to get a men's fellowship started centered around working on small construction projects. Our first project is our preschool building. I'm hoping that once a month the men will get together and do work on someone's house or on the church. So far it seems that the interest in the preschool building is high. I tell them that the purpose is to help the church, but my ulterior motive is to start a men's fellowship. It was easy for the ladies to generate interest. They just announced that they would be gathering to share their feelings and to support one another, but I don't think such an announcement would go over as well with the guys. Anyway, please continue to pray for our women's ministry, men's ministry, as well as our children and adult Sunday School classes.

We are continuing to get some work done on our Fellowship Hall. Over the last 8 months or so we have had groups come in and take off the damaged siding and replace a lot of termite damaged wood. It was really terrible. Almost everyone that worked on it said that the two story building was only being held up by the grace of God. Well, we got plenty of that! This week a group will come in to put up our siding. We are very grateful for the help we're getting, and these guys do good work. This group that is coming as well as the last group that came, came through the Southern Baptist's Operation NOAH Rebuild. If you want to do a construction mission trip to New Orleans, these guys are the best guys to talk to.

The other bit of good news is that the Louisiana Baptist Convention is now supporting my ministry. They have been sending me a check for the last few months. It was approved for 6 months and then to be reexamined. I just pass the check on to Northport Baptist Church who has continued to collect love offerings and pay me a regular salary from those. With support from Grace Baptist Church and from people like you giving to Grace for New Orleans at Northport Baptist Church, God has been faithful.

I've been volunteering at the high school across the street from the church, and I seem to be developing some good relationships with the faculty and the administration, and the teenagers are starting to recognize me both in the neighborhood and in the school. One of our new members is a young black man named John, and he is showing interest in working with teenaged guys. I'm hoping to hook him up with the school's coaches.

Please continue to pray:

1. Pray for the Lord to continue to provide for our support.
2. Pray that the Lord will lead John to where he will best minister at our church.
3. Pray for a man named Kenneth who lives in a gutted out house in the Lower 9th Ward without power and is working to overcome an addiction. He is very faithful to church on Sundays and to his NA meetings.
4. Pray for someone to step up and teach my Sunday School class.

Blessings to you,

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If you would like to financially support Charlie's ministry in the 9th Ward of New Orleans. You may send checks to Northport Baptist Church with "Grace for New Orleans" in the memo line. Northport Baptist Church, 1004 Main Avenue, Northport, AL 35476.