

& **THE SERVANT**

Winter 2010 Edition - A Quarterly Publication of CCFH Ministries
Serving Persons with Special Needs

*Wishing You a Happy, Peaceful, Prayerful
New Year*

Is the Christmas Spirit Packed Away?

The holidays are over and most of the decorations are stored. So what do we do with the Christmas spirit? How does one react now that the New Year begins and the response of Merry Christmas does not seem appropriate? At CCFH, we believe there is one thing that should stand out all year long. That one thing is **SERVICE**. We experience it often at Christmas; something as small as opening a door, or dropping some coins in a bucket beside a ringing bell, or as large as putting together a party for children who have no parents or family. In the book of Mark, Jesus made it very clear, "If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last, and the servant of all." (Mark 9:35)

We will remain focused on **SERVING** in 2010. Many times people reach out to us in service and this year we want to return the favor. We believe in allowing our residents to experience the joy of serving. We will reach out to our churches, friends, and community to lend a helping hand.

There is an old Chinese proverb that says, "Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime." Our version of that is, "Serve someone during the holidays and they will have a Merry Christmas. Teach a person to serve year round, and they will have joy for eternity."

Our prayer is that you will live a servant's life all year long and experience joy like never before.

A Servant's Heart

This year at the Board of Directors meeting, CCFH honored one of our directors and his wife for service to Riverwood. **Dale and Dianne Sikes** have been an integral part of this ministry for many years. Their love and service continues with their grandchildren. It is a joy to see a legacy of service continued through their grandson **Hunter** as he has worked on one of the rooms at Riverwood and spent some time with our residents.

*Thank you, Dale and Dianne,
for your commitment.*



(l to r) Dale Sikes, Rhonna Sanford (CCFH Director of Residential Services), and Dianne Sikes

From the President:



According to the New Testament, God wills that the church be a people who show what God is like. – Stanley J. Grenz

Our God is loving, kind and gracious. But He is also stern with His children and expects the very best from them. Still He is patient and understanding. All of these are characteristics of God. CCFH Ministries has a strong desire to show the world what God is like. Our goal to encourage Disability Ministry (DM) in churches throughout the world clearly allows people to see God through us.

True DM must mirror our God. As God planned from the beginning of time, DM must be planned to determine what area your church should be focused upon. As God works through man, DM has to have the people to support and implement the plan. As God moves in His time, so should those in DM understand that God will grant the increase in His time and not necessarily an overnight success. As God is patient with all people, so must DM. You see, DM is all about people reaching out to people, and as we move into 2010, we must continue to show people the one true God.

God bless you,



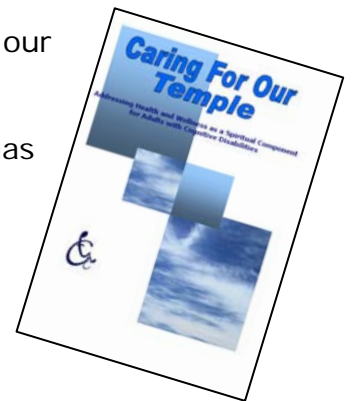
Start the Year with Our Special Gift to You

CCFH offers many educational resources for disability ministry both in our online store and blog. One of our newest offerings is *Caring for Our Temple*. This publication may be accessed through our blog. It was written and compiled by Sylvia Hemphill, CCFH staff member. Sylvia has a heart for addressing the complete needs of those with disabilities, their families, and caregivers. Under the guidance of Jim Pierson, she has expanded her knowledge of related educational methods and issues.

This is not meant to be an exhaustive resource for health and wellness, but can be used as a supplemental class resource, to allow coverage over a period of time. Using this method will take minimal time away from scheduled Bible lessons.

Go to our blog now and print this book to use in class and/or share with others in your ministry.

Visit the CCFH Online Store <http://www.ccfh.org/store/index.php> to see a complete list of resources.



Prom of the Stars

by Rhonna Sanford

Throughout the year, the residents look forward to many things, but the **Prom of the Stars** is the highlight. The prom is sponsored by **Farragut Christian Church**, and is held at the Convention Center in Knoxville, Tennessee. This year, there were approximately 1100 attendees for the prom. (The very first prom we attended had about 100!)

This year we had two new residents attend, **Kim** and **Tom W.** The other residents had been talking about the prom *months* before the actual event. They would tell Kim and Tom how much fun it was and how good they looked all dressed up. As they described the night, you could see the *rookies'* interest grow. After the ladies selected their dresses and the men their tuxedos, Kim and Tom were the first to greet me at the door to tell me ALL about it. "I got a red dress!" exclaimed Kim. Tom proudly followed with "I got my tux!" The BIG day finally arrived and exhilaration filled the air. With a lot of assistance from the staff, all the residents looked so beautiful. Everyone needs to feel beautiful and the smiles on their faces were an affirmation of just how meaningful this prom is.



Kim

When we arrived, Kim was so overwhelmed that she could hardly speak. Tom just stood in the doorway and looked around the room with all the lights and sounds of festivity. Almost at the same time, they both just said "WOW!" Then, they walked into the room and began a night at the prom. The rest of the evening was spent eating, dancing, and simply enjoying being with friends, new and old.

When I saw Kim on Monday morning, I asked her if she enjoyed the prom. Her response was wonderful, "Do you think I can wear a blue dress next year?" I smiled and said, "We'll have to see what we can do about that."



Tom W.

For more information and videos from the Prom of the Stars, visit: www.promofthestars.com/.

Thank you for your gifts in memory and honor of... September 1 to November 30, 2009

In Memory Of / Contributor

Ricky Gent / Bob and Jane Swiger
Lillian Glenn / Tim and Nancy Decker
Virginia Ide / Peggy McCord
Frances Spurrier / Harry and Sandra Fuller
Norma Turner / Berean Class/Hickory
 Valley CC, Chattanooga, TN



In Honor Of / Contributor

Gary Spangler's birthday / Wayne and
 Ida Spangler
Brenda Kirby / Robert and Mary Nell Ellis

PLEASE MAIL DONATIONS AND MEMORY/HONOR GIFTS TO CCFH, PO Box 310, Louisville, TN 37777, or submit through our website. When sending Memory/Honor gifts, include the name and address of the person you wish to receive notification of your remembrance.

CCFH Ministries

Riverwood Christian Community

**P.O. Box 310
Louisville, TN 37777**

**865.984.5178
Website: www.ccfh.org**



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Thank You for Remembering Our Residents on Their Birthdays

February 7 Christy M.
March 20 Gib R.
March 27 Kim J.

Cards should be mailed to Riverwood at
the address listed below.

Where You Can Find Us This Quarter

Gary – West Union Christian Church
West Union, IL; February 21

Gary and Jim – Bay Area Sunday School
Convention, Castro Valley, CA;
March 4 – 6

Your Generosity is Appreciated

Thank you for considering our ongoing need for donations of paper goods, cleaning supplies, craft materials, and toiletry items for Riverwood.

Some specific requests are: household items such as Tupperware or Rubbermaid products; over the counter meds including Tylenol, Tums, Band-aids; paper products such as toilet paper, paper towels, napkins; drinking cups; cleaning products; eating utensils.

Donations of items may be made at our office located at ***Riverwood Christian Community, 3123 Pride Road, Louisville, TN 37777***. Please call our office at **865-984-5178** if you have any questions or would like more information.