

SHORline

a newsletter of Shepherds' Haven of Rest Ministries

Volume 12 Issue 2

April - June 2013

On a Personal Note...

Dear friends,

2013 is flying by! We have completed 10 retreats in 6 states (TX, TN, GA, AR, FL, and AZ). We have seen so many couples in crisis, but are continually grateful that they persist to work through their issues. Your prayers and support are such an encouragement to ministry couples around the country.

On April 6th, we traveled to Destin to visit with our friends John and Linda Calcote. They have shared their wonderful homes for SHOR retreats since 2006, first in Branson and now in Destin. We hosted 4 couples: a FL pastor and wife going through a crisis time and needing encouragement; a MS prison chaplain and his wife who recently experienced a traumatic event; a FL church planter and wife needing encouragement and direction; and an AR church planter and wife needing a break. A MS pastor scheduled to come was hit by an 18-wheeler Easter weekend. Would you pray for his recovery? During the retreat, we checked on two Florida pastors who have been going through tough times. On the way home, Charlie got food poisoning and was sick for several days. We hosted a retreat in our home April 19 - 22. One local pastor and wife ate dinner with us Friday night. We are rejoicing in their new church field (they had served faithfully in Virginia in two hard situations). We had a young Kentucky couple seeking the Lord for full time ministry, and an Alabama church planter and wife beginning a new ministry and expecting their 2nd child. After this retreat, we helped a terminated ministry family, a TN pastor and wife struggling in their marriage, a LA assoc. pastor and wife dealing with church conflict, and a VA family seeking the Lord's direction. Charlie traveled with Dr. Gray to his Allison family reunion in N. Louisiana the weekend of April 27 - 28 while Suzanne stayed with Mimi. So many of our wonderful family support SHOR, and we are always grateful to see them and express our appreciation.

The first week of May, we ministered to a FL couple dealing with a suicide, a local couple in family crisis, a local couple making significant decisions about ministry and marriage, a MS pastor who lost his mother, an AR pastor's wife who lost her mother, and several families needing encouragement. We traveled to Ohio on May 9th to see 2 of our grandchildren perform in their school play. Charlie was blessed to spend time with a young man who was called to ministry when Charlie pastored in S. Louisiana. We traveled to E. TN for the Pigeon Forge retreat on Sunday, May 12. We hosted 4 couples: a TN seminary student and wife who are on staff at Bellevue who needed time away together; a KY pastor and wife who have been through ministry challenges; a LA pastor & wife whose church split last year; and a VA pastor and wife working to rejuvenate their church. One pastor had a church

member die on the Sunday before the retreat so he and his wife were unable to attend. We were grateful for Vic and Vicki Howard's help with the meals during the retreat (dear friends from Charlie's pastorate in Knoxville). We visited with 2 local pastors during the retreat as well as several donors who came before, during, or after the retreat. It was a wonderful week, and we are grateful. Our second board meeting of 2013 was Friday, May 24. We continue to thank the Lord for the men who serve on our board. Dr. Gray Allison and Bro. Jack O'Kelley (from Bartlett where Charlie pastored) have served as Chairman and Vice-chairman of the board respectively since SHOR began in 2002. We are so grateful for them as well as John Hyneman, John Calcote, Jimmie Williams, and Alan Swafford. Their support and guidance is invaluable to the ministry and us. We hosted 4 couples in our home over Memorial Day weekend (Friday - Monday afternoon): an AR bi-vocational pastor and wife desperately needing rest and time together; a KY youth pastor and wife needing a break from doctoral work and ministry; an AL pastor and wife working through some hurts in ministry; and an AR pastor and wife beginning a sabbatical (he was injured in a fall from a ladder -- please pray for his complete recovery). The last of May we met with a missionary who is experiencing panic attacks and a couple going through a family crisis. They need much prayer. We traveled to Arizona on Sunday, June 2nd to begin a retreat at Scottsdale. We hosted 4 couples: an OH church planter and wife celebrating their 20th wedding anniversary needing time away; an IL pastor and wife desiring time together; an evangelist and wife based in Nevada needing encouragement; and a staff pastor and wife from AZ with 12 children experiencing burn-out. The groups this spring have been God ordained -- such great fellowship and times of encouragement!

We traveled to Louisiana to see friends on our way to the So. Baptist Convention in Houston where we hosted a booth at the Pastors' Wives' Expo. This allows us to share SHOR with many ministry couples. Suzanne served on a panel on Monday morning during the expo which afforded her the opportunity to share some of the challenges of ministry we have seen serving in the pastorate and through SHOR.

We read Ps 145:16: "You open your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing." We are so grateful to our great God and to you for your love, support, and prayers.

Suzanne and Charlie



Retreat Testimonies

This has been a good, but difficult, year of ministry. We, the leadership of the church, are leading our people in a new direction. While very exciting, it's also been stressful as we have encountered some resistance to change. My wife and I are also expecting our second child. With all that was going on, we desperately needed time to refresh and reconnect before our baby's arrival. Thank you for serving us and taking care of us so that we could refuel.

Words cannot express the Christ-likeness shown by SHOR to us. This ministry is by far the most needed thing for those who serve Christ and His church. And then there is Judy . . . you can see Christ on her face and her love for the Lord in her voice and actions. My prayer is that God will bless those who give to make this possible.

Sometimes as a pastor and pastor's wife you just need to know that someone really cares for you! That someone knows how you feel and can understand why you feel that way! Our SHOR retreat was the perfect thing at the perfect time in our lives and ministry with the perfect people who have made a lasting impact on us! I am not exaggerating when I say that our life and ministry will never be the same. Charlie & Suzanne offered wisdom and encouragement and support that only they could give having been a part of ministry themselves. I feel that years have been added to our ministry because of this one retreat orchestrated by God, the love and care exemplified by Charlie, Suzanne, and Judy, and the fellowship experienced with everyone. Thank you!

This retreat was a much-needed breakthrough for me. Not only did I realize that I was burning out and had my eyes on the wrong thing -- "people" and the church, -- but that I had been hurt by them both and needed to let it go. Thank you so much for your wise counsel and love and for Charlie being so down to earth and funny. I needed to laugh & feel the joy about what ministry is all about - loving God & loving others. Please continue to do what God has called you to do. Thank you for pinning me down to trust in the Lord and allow Him to direct us.

This week has been one of the most refreshing weeks that my wife and I have had in 7 years. We've had the opportunity to reconnect as a couple and to debrief in a healthy environment. We realize that we are not alone and that there is a support group that will pull up beside us and minister to us as we minister to others.

We simply needed a time to rest and be physically and emotionally away from all that goes on in our life and ministry. It was so refreshing to be with people who love you and give themselves for you. Sounds kind of like Jesus . . .

It had been 5 years since my wife and I had quality time alone. The SHOR retreat gave us the opportunity to get away and focus on one another. We spent a week having fun and loving on each other. The chance to give my wife my undivided attention strengthened our marriage and brought us closer together and to our Savior. We thank God for SHOR Ministries and all of those who made the retreat possible.

In the last year, we have gone through so much. Her mother, my sister, and a dear friend passed away. We had to take care of some financial and personal matters traveling 5 hours one way. Our daughter-in-law had lost her father and may need a corneal transplant due to an eye infection. Our church was having financial difficulties. We've had some people leave over insignificant issues. All in all we were tired and discouraged. I'd forgotten how to laugh and enjoy the relationship I have with my wife and my God. This week has restored that. Charlie & Suzanne showing us love and genuine concern really lifted our spirits. We took time out to talk about us for a change. We met other couples experiencing the same struggles and saw we were not alone. These friendships formed over the week made it hard to say goodbye. This was the best week together we've had in a long time. We pray God's continued blessing on SHOR Ministries.

My family and I were forced to resign from a church before God called us to our current place of ministry. The verbal attacks on my wife and children were devastating to the point that my kids wanted nothing to do with church anymore. God dealt graciously with us and saw us through those times. He has placed us in a wonderful church now full of loving, supportive people. Nevertheless, there are still some wounds that aren't completely healed. Also, with the excitement and growth of our new ministry, my wife and I find ourselves running and doing to the point of physical and emotional exhaustion. This retreat allowed us to relax, be ourselves, reconnect, and recharge. We thank God for SHOR Ministries.

The timing of this retreat allowed the Lord to rebuild our communication and prepare us for the next chapter in our lives. We needed a place to connect with others who share the same passion for the Kingdom but had been sidelined with (spiritual) battle fatigue!

Blessings!

Special thanks to John and Linda Calcote for sharing your gorgeous Destin home for our April retreat. Your friendship, love, and support for SHOR in every way means more than we could ever say!

Our warmest appreciation to Randy Tullos for providing the wonderful chalet for the May retreat in Pigeon Forge. If you are planning to go to E. Tennessee please consider *Smokey Mountain Christian Village*. It's a great place!

Heartfelt gratitude to Vic and Vicki Howard for serving with us in Pigeon Forge. You are such a blessing!

A BIG thanks to Judy Snider for her help with the April and May retreats in our home as well as all that preparation for the road trips! We love you and thank the Lord for you!

Special thanks to Donna Gaines, Diane Nix (*Contagious Joy*), and Susie Hawkins for involving SHOR in the Pastors' Wives' Expo at the So. Baptist Convention. Your love for pastors' wives encourages our hearts!

Many, many thanks for all of you who give to make SHOR a reality -- we are so grateful!

Prayer Needs

- ◆ *For our upcoming retreats in Branson, MO; Destin, FL; Arlington, TN; Centennial, WY; and Challis, ID*
- ◆ *For the couples who are registered to come that the Lord would guard this time away for them to be refreshed*
- ◆ *For continued provision of places for retreats strategically located across the US*
- ◆ *For regular monthly or quarterly support for the work of the ministry*
- ◆ *For networking to help couples who do not live near us to receive the ongoing help they need*
- ◆ *For wisdom in managing the retreats plus the Biblical guidance between the retreats*

Schedule

Dates	Event	Location
July 16 - 20	SHOR retreat	Branson MO
August 5 - 6	Acts One8 Bootcamp	Olive Branch MS
August 12 - 16	SHOR retreat	Destin FL
August 19 - 21	Founder's Days MABTS	Memphis TN
August 30 - Sept. 2	SHOR retreat	Memphis TN
Sept. 8	SR. Adult Sunday	Jonesboro AR
Sept. 16 - 20	SHOR retreat	Centennial WY
Sept. 30 - Oct 4	SHOR retreat	Challis ID
Oct. 14 - 18	SHOR retreat	Townsend TN

For a complete listing of 2013 retreats and NEW 2014 dates, see the website: www.shorministries.com

To Think About...

The following are excerpts from retreat applications of folks scheduled for upcoming retreats: (please pray for them as they prepare to attend a retreat)

What do you believe to be the greatest problem you face in your ministry?

- + Spending time together -- we have been in ministry for 25 years now and have never really taken time together without it being ministry related
- + Freedom from financial worry
- + Getting personal priorities in order. Learning how to be a better spiritual leader for my family
- + We live in a very poverty-stricken area where people are very "needy" and tend to ask and ask for help. Some of them have become great manipulators, and we have been taken advantage of. It's hard to know where to draw the line between help and enabling. That is just a glimpse into our ministry here -- a very drug-ridden and poor area with many, many problems. We are just spread very thin.

What are your wife's greatest needs?

- ♥ Time to seek the Lord on some important decisions we need to make
- ♥ My relationship with my husband. Married for 10 years, our quality time together has been greatly reduced as of late. With 3 young children and working at growing churches, life moves at an incredibly fast rate.
- ♥ Time away from the ministry, the house, and the children to rest and be encouraged
- ♥ Finances and health issues; in 29 years of marriage, we've never had a time just for us
- ♥ Security and God's strength

What makes SHOR different?

Ministry couples attend SHOR retreats at no charge
Charlie & Suzanne are available to talk with and to pray with each couple
Ministry couples are served and allowed to rest with no agenda
Would you please consider helping us to help them?



Charlie & Suzanne Grigsby
5525 Chester Street
Arlington, TN 38002

Ministry couples attend SHOR retreats at no charge.
Please pray about supporting this ministry.

To better assist you, we now have several contribution options:

- * **NEW: Paypal available at www.shorministries.com**
- Check or Money order (use the supplied envelope) NO CASH PLEASE
- Credit Card: Visa, MasterCard or American Express
- Bank Draft: call 901-867-3843, or email us at info@shorministries.com to get set up

All gifts to Shepherds' Haven of Rest Ministries are tax deductible

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 388
MEMPHIS, TN

Why SHOR exists...

From a Louisiana pastor: **Healthy Shepherd = Healthy Sheep**

I recently had the privilege of drawing from a well of refreshing water. My wife and I just returned from a week that was devoid of pastoral responsibilities. We benefited from SHOR Ministries (Shepherds' Haven of Rest) with Charlie and Suzanne Grigsby. SHOR provides a refuge for pastors and wives who are overloaded, burned out, or hurting. They do this at no cost to the pastors.

During the retreat we connected with other ministry couples who shared our struggles and discouragements. It was great to know that we are not alone. It is even more encouraging to discover that you are NORMAL! This connection was refreshing in and of itself.

Also, my wife and I were given the liberty to reconnect as a couple. The only request of SHOR was that we fellowship with the entire group during the evening meal. Other than this minor request, we were free to venture out and be alone with each other. It is amazing how precious that time proved to be. We laughed more than we have in years. We experienced small adventures together. We created special memories that are only shared between us -- even if it meant her falling into a creek!

During this time, we began to heal. You see, we were called to a small church 7 years ago that was hurting and dying. In those years we have experienced a lot of hurt. The pain caused both of us to disconnect as a couple. Within those 7 years we never took time to invest in our marriage. Sounds excessive, but many of you are in the same boat. Burned out, overloaded, and running in two different directions. Thanks to SHOR Ministries and the Grigsbys, we were forced to take time for ourselves. It was great!

In this time of rest and revival, I was given a thought. This is a thought I consider to be a "duh" moment. That thought consisted of 4 simple words: "**HEALTHY SHEPHERD -- HEALTHY SHEEP.**"

Many of you may have already learned this lesson, but for this type A guy, it was not always on the radar. God revealed to me, through some down time and a cleared schedule that I need to prioritize my health. Our health is holistic. My mind, body, and spirit are a unit. By protecting my health, I can possibly endure one of the greatest concerns of my life: the health of the Church. Could it be that as pastors we are one of the keys to a healthy Church? Could it be that we have missed this? Could it be that buried under our heavy schedules and increased workload, we are one key to a healthy church? Could it be as simple as "Healthy Shepherd -- Healthy Sheep?"

SHOR Ministries helped me have a "duh" moment that could potentially change the health of our church. SHOR helped a pastor and his wife see their personal and relational health as very important. I would encourage you, as you read this letter, and serve in ministry that you seek people like the Grigsbys and a ministry such as SHOR. The health of your church and your ministry may hang in the balance.

**To all who have sacrificed to invest in pastors and their ministries,
THANK YOU!**

SHOR Ministries

5525 Chester Street
Arlington, TN 38002

PHONE:
(901) 867-3843

E-MAIL:
info@shorministries.com
Charlie@shorministries.com
Suzanne@shorministries.com

Feel free to contact us. We would love to hear from you.

Visit us on the Web @

www.shorministries.com

*Please consider
being a regular
supporter of SHOR*