

SHORline

a newsletter of Shepherds' Haven of Rest Ministries

Volume 12 Issue 4

September - December 2013

On a Personal Note...

Dear friends,

We have completed our retreats for 2013! What a great year as we hosted retreats in Texas, Georgia, Arkansas, both east (2) and west (5) Tennessee, Florida (2), Arizona, Missouri, Wyoming, Idaho, and New York (2). We have had pastors from 27 states and several missionary couples, too. We rejoice in all that the Lord is doing to encourage those in ministry to stay the course.

This fall we have hosted 6 retreats with these couples: Aug. 30 - Sept. 2 -- Arlington, TN: a KY pastor & wife dealing with church staff personnel issues; an AL pastor & wife making major decisions and experiencing changes in their health; a MS pastor & wife undergoing significant changes in their family; and an AL pastor & wife on the cutting edge of new ministry opportunities.

Sept. 16 - 20 -- Centennial, WY: an OK pastor & wife who were terminated (she has many health issues); a ND pastor & wife dealing with a law suit and health issues (this past year has been tough); a LA pastor & wife needing time away together; a CO missionary & wife seeking God's will for future ministry; and a local WY pastor & wife who are adjusting to recent changes in their family; (a CO pastor and wife had to cancel because of the flooding - their daughter and family had to be airlifted out of the area where the floods were significant, and a SD couple were unable to come when her condition worsened - she has a brain tumor)

Sept. 30 - Oct. 4 -- Challis, Idaho: a WA bi-vocational youth minister & wife needing time away from work, ministry, and demands; a WA pastor & wife desiring a break to have quality time together as well as rest; an ID youth pastor & wife who have been through many transitions needing prayer for their family; a CO pastor & wife dealing with a number of health issues; and a bi-vocational CO church planter & wife who need perspective and vision for the future.

Oct. 14 - 18 -- Townsend, TN: an OH couple struggling in a church revitalization; a VA pastor and prison chaplain & his wife dealing with issues from the past; a GA music minister & wife currently out of ministry (very traumatic church experience); a KY pastor & wife juggling ministry, family, and school demands; and an AL youth minister & wife desiring time to rest and be encouraged. (A *special need* was met for one of the couples who attended. The GA couple drove a vehicle that had 315,000 miles on it to the retreat. [Their other car at home had over 300,000 miles, also.] The 2nd day of our retreat, their car's transmission fell out on the road (literally). A friend of ours felt impressed by the Lord to give that couple her car. **How good is our God???**)

Oct. 31 - Nov. 4 -- Warrensburg, NY: a Maine pastor & wife who are struggling in many areas of life and ministry (they will be leaving Maine at the end of the year); a NY pastor

& wife who are dealing with a number of health issues; a Maryland pastor & wife needing time away together; and a NY bi-vocational pastor & wife facing church issues that are very discouraging.

Nov. 7 - 10 -- Warrensburg, NY: a NY bi-vocational pastor & wife who have been through some trials in their first year in a new pastorate (she has been dealing with seizures); a Vermont pastor & wife adjusting to the pastorate after returning from the mission field; a NY bi-vocational assoc. pastor & wife struggling with conflict (both church and personal); and a Massachusetts pastor & wife seeking the Lord's clear direction for their ministry.

Other ministry opportunities included these:

- * Charlie preaching in Jonesboro AR for a Senior Adult Sunday Sept. 8th
- * Hosting a TN pastor & wife and their son in our home Sept. 12. They are entering a new phase of ministry, and we are praying the Lord's clear direction for them.
- * A Cajun cookout for the Centennial Valley Community Church outreach on Sat., Sept. 21st after the WY retreat
- * A missionary family visiting in our home Mon. Sept 23. They are seeking the Lord's direction, and we would ask that you pray for them.
- * Dr. Irvin Hays, who served over 30 years as pastor at Bartlett Baptist Church, passed away on Oct. 6th. Charlie was honored to have a part in his service at Bartlett on the 9th.
- * We met with an AR pastor's wife and 2 daughters on Oct. 23rd who were dealing with some special needs. The Lord is opening exciting new ministry to this family
- * We met with 2 additional couples while in New York concerning future ministry and Biblical guidance needs
- * Charlie led the memorial service for his double first cousin in Louisiana on Nov. 16th
- * Kirby Woods Baptist Church Mission's Conference November 17 - 20 (24) -- such an encouragement and challenge to our hearts.
- * Suzanne spoke at a Women's Event -- "Don't be the missing piece!" -- at Bartlett Baptist Church Nov. 22 - 23.

In addition to the retreats and these ministry opportunities, we have met with a number of couples facing crises, conflict, and Biblical guidance needs. We have seen Him do many wonderful things in situations. We rejoice with David in Psalm 111:1: "Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with all my heart."

Suzanne and Charlie



Retreat Testimonies

We rolled up tired and discouraged. The past several months have involved a barrage of counseling, many people coming to faith, dealing with people with addictions, suicide, and abuse, as well as the occult. We have also been wrapped up in the silly, but exhausting effects of church politics and criticism. In addition, our personal lives have been filled with depression, anxiety, and health issues with our children. In the 3-hour drive from our home to the retreat, we were amazed at how exhausted and disheartened we had become. The SHOR retreat was a gracious gift from a sweet and sovereign God whose timing is perfect! We feel so blessed to have been a part.

We came here because my wife and I are looking for some direction from the Lord as to where He wants us to go and what He wants us to do. This retreat gave us the time and the place to get away, do some praying, and to think about our future. The time spent with Charlie and Suzanne was so important to us. It helped to talk with them because they were very affirming to us as servants of the Lord. We both feel more confident that wherever we go that the Lord will use us. This retreat has reignited my love for the ministry and my desire to serve the Lord.

We had been trying for over a year to get to this retreat. But God's timing is always perfect for our need. Financial issues had kept us from having any time away together for rest. Ministry and health concerns have been major for over a year. God provided over and above anything we could have imagined. We will *never* forget what God did here through His servants who listened to His voice. Many thanks to all who support this ministry with prayer, money, and time.

Normally, I don't like retreats, but this one was different. Charlie and Suzanne really understand pastors and their wives. They know that the best gift they can give pastor couples is time together and relaxation. We believe this retreat was a blessing from heaven. It came at the end of a very hectic summer, and we are grateful.

At this point in our ministry we could not have afforded the cost of a retreat. Our church reaches out to the untouchables who do not have resources to financially support the ministry -- we are the main support. Charlie and Suzanne as well as the other ministry couples were encouraging and wonderful to us.

We were extremely exhausted and discouraged in our ministry to plant a church. We have been trying to do it all alone for such a long time with no one to talk to but each other. Yet, the Lord brought these incredible people into our lives that provided a wonderful time for us to be renewed and refreshed, reenergizing us to do the Lord's work. The genuineness of their love was overwhelming. We greatly appreciate their personal prayer time with us and know they will continue to pray for us in the future which encourages us all the more.

Prior to coming, we were stressed; now we can go home relaxed and recharged. The food and fellowship were great -- a Godsend. I thank God for this ministry. The love we felt has been awesome!

With seven children (2 in college, 5 at home) and our home-schooling schedule combined with student ministry, we have a very difficult time getting away. SHOR allowed us to spend some focused time with each other and the Lord. We both needed the time to relax and relate to other ministers with grace and mercy. It is such a great time with all the folks getting to pray for and with each other. We needed this in order to decompress from the battle, get some rest, receive some encouragement and some healing, and then go back to the battle. Thank you!

We are relatively new to ministry and have recently faced some serious issues in which we needed Godly, wise counsel. The timely advice that we received was exactly what we needed. It allowed us to see some changes that we needed to make which in turn, by God's grace, will change lives. Also, for us personally, my wife and I have not had a break since we got married. The ability to simply rest and recover from the mental and physical drain was desperately needed. Finally, at this point in our lives, there would be absolutely no way to ever afford a week like this. We were so encouraged by everyone's kindness and generosity.

The stress of everyday ministry while still being a father/husband is very demanding. This retreat has allowed me to focus on my relationship with my spouse who gives her all to support our ministry completely. This experience was something that I could not afford to do for my wife. I can't thank SHOR enough for the pampering we received.

Blessings!

Thanks to the sweet ladies of the Pathfinders class at Bartlett Baptist for providing food for the Labor Day retreat. You encourage our hearts!

Special thanks to Jim and Debby Davenport for traveling out to Wyoming to help us cook and serve. A BIG thank you to Centennial Valley Community Church for allowing us to use your wonderful facilities for our meals. You are all a great blessing!

Sincere gratitude to Richard and Gina Headrick for providing the rooms at the Old Corral Hotel (for the 12th year!) for our Wyoming retreat. We love you!

Our warmest appreciation to George and Susan Cooper for sharing your beautiful cabin in the Smokey Mountains and for providing the one next door for the October retreat. A special thank you to Vic and Vicki Howard, Jayne Toland, and Jim Brashier for helping us cook and serve at the retreat. We thank the Lord for your friendship!

Thank you to Doug and Louise Goettsche for all that you do to make the New York retreats such a blessing to us and to all who attend. Congratulations on your new grandbaby!!

Many thanks to Pam Moore and the ladies of Bartlett Baptist Church for having Suzanne to speak -- all those hugs were such a blessing!! Thanks to Johnny Hutchison for allowing Charlie to preach. We appreciate every ministry opportunity.

We are truly grateful for each gift that allows us to continue to serve ministry couples -- thank you!

Prayer Needs

- ◆ **For places in strategic areas for retreats** (minimum 5 bedrooms -- preferably private baths for each bedroom). To justify the travel expense, we need to be able to host 4 couples. We are looking for places in the mid-west and southwest. We lost our place in Branson and are looking for an alternative to the Arizona facility we have used. It helps if the places are donated so that we can be good stewards of what the Lord gives to us. If a place is within 6 hours of Memphis, it is really easier for us to be at home (and better use of our funds). Our places in Georgia, Florida, E. TN, New York, South Texas, Wyoming, and Idaho are excellent. Any of these can be lost at any time so we appreciate your prayers as we consider places that will provide privacy for couples, adequate kitchens for our meal preparations, and areas that will reach the most states (within an 8 hour drive).
- ◆ **For wisdom in each Biblical guidance situation.** We deal with more couples outside of retreats than we do in the retreats. The reality is that ministry couples need help and encouragement. We need to network to help couples who do not live in our area (or near enough for us to meet them in a day's drive). Please pray the Lord will enable us to find Bible-based assistance for a reasonable cost (most couples cannot afford to pay) for those who need on-going help.
- ◆ **For regular monthly or quarterly support** for the work of the ministry. (From the inception of SHOR we have prayed for 500 donors who would give \$20 a month to underwrite the costs of retreats.) We are so grateful for those who have been faithful to help us for the last 12 years. The cost of food and travel continues to go up, and we are committed to take retreats to pastors where they are (or within an 8 hour drive of their church field) because we believe many could not come if we only held retreats in Memphis. We pray that some might want to sponsor a couple for a retreat (from \$400 to \$1000 depending on location). Another possibility would be sponsoring a retreat (from \$2500 to \$8000 depending on location).
- ◆ **For the Lord to provide more opportunities** for us to share the vision God gave us for SHOR. We value every chance we have to tell folks what we do and why we do it.
- ◆ **For our continued spiritual health and physical stamina.** People ask us how we keep up with our schedule. The answer is simple -- by the grace of God. We know we are in His perfect will. Please pray we will be diligent to fulfill His call.

Schedule

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
January 21 - 26	SHOR retreat	Yorktown TX
February 9	Charlie preaching	Riverview Bapt., Savannah TN
February 13 - 16	SHOR retreat	Arlington TN
February 21-22	Marriage weekend	FBC, Greenhill AL
February 23 - 27	SHOR retreat	Rome GA
March 7 - 10	SHOR retreat	Arlington TN
March 16 - 19	SHOR retreat	Crossheirs Retreat AR
April 7 - 11	SHOR retreat	Destin FL
April 24 - 27	SHOR retreat	Arlington TN
May 5 - 9	SHOR retreat	Pigeon Forge TN
May 23 - 26	SHOR retreat	Arlington TN

See other 2014 retreats on the web www.shorministries.com

To Think About...

We are aware that there are places ministry couples can use for a break, *BUT* they often have to provide their own meals (very costly & a lot of work) or even clean up after themselves. SHOR provides FREE facilities and meals plus great fellowship. Each group is unique. Life-long friendships are often made during these times. Many events available to ministry couples are programmed with little rest. Please consider . . .

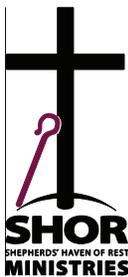
What makes SHOR different?

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 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

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Merry Christmas from our family to yours



Summer 2013 -- Picture from left to right:

Luke (6), Karen, David, and Lydia (10) Grigsby: David is a physical therapist in Memphis; Karen is a 4th grade teacher at Tipton-Rosemark Academy

Jessica, Chad, and Ezra Gray (born 3/4/13) Grigsby: Chad pastors Compass Church in Batesville AR
Suzanne and Charlie

Dillon (12), Angie, Sydney (14), Dean, and Sylvia (9) Fulks: Dean pastors LifePoint Church in Columbus OH

Thank you for your prayers for our family.

Wishing you a Blessed 2014!